Cannock
CHRONICLE

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£21m UNITS WILL BRING 400 JOBS

BY CARL JACKSON

TWO industrial units will be built on a former colliery site in a £21.6 million development, creating hundreds of jobs.

The scheme will transform 14 acres at Kingswood Lake Employment Park on the old Kingswood colliery site between Churchbridge and Norton Canes.

The units will take up 283,000 sq ft of the plot, and initial estimates calculate it would bring 425 jobs, although the final number depends on which companies take on the units when they are built.

Councillor Gordon Alcott, deputy leader of Cannock Chase Council, was at the site for the announcement. He said: "The scheme will provide significant job opportunities and investment into Cannock Chase district, and I applaud all those involved in bringing it forward."

The project is the first to receive backing from the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) – £7m from a pot called the Combined Investment Fund.

And the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership has provided a grant to developer Opus Land to carry out remedial works on the former colliery, which served as an open-cast mine from 1939 to 1959.

Backed

Bridges Ventures has also backed the project financially. Opus has been involved with some of the other arrivals at Kingswood Lake during the redevelopment of the site since 2002.

The firm built APC's distribution hub, and delivered Veolia's headquarters, and has also been contracted to develop a new call centre for First Choice at the site.

The district council is classed as a 'non-constituent member' of the combined authority, which means it pays less into the organisation and has less of a say, but can still benefit from such schemes.

Council leader George Adamson said the announcement justified Cannock Chase being a part of the authority. He said: "This is great news for the district, it is going to bring hundreds of new jobs. It proves how right we were to join the combined authority as we have secured a huge investment from them."

He said the development would prove crucial in the future, helping to restore the council's financial prosperity.

The authority is still reeling from the premature closure of Rugeley Power Station this summer which will cost around £1m a year in lost business rates.

The council is set to announce final savings plans next week to plug the gap but Councillor Adamson said developments like the one at Kingswood Lake would ensure the authority's financial troubles are only in the short to medium term.

GROUP RECORDS DOZENS OF DRIVERS SPEEDING

Members of the Hednesford Community Speedwatch group monitor the traffic

DOZENS of drivers have been clocked speeding in Hednesford – including two driving at more than double the legal limit.

The Hednesford Community Speedwatch group calculated the speeds of more than 1,500 drivers in four sessions in Lower Road, Rawnsley Road, Rugeley Road and Station Road on weekdays and weekends and at different times. The group said they found 108 drivers were exceeding the 30mph limit.

Community Speedwatch was established across Staffordshire so that volunteers can help with reinforcing road safety messages. The Hednesford scheme was started earlier this year, and volunteers starting calculating speeds from last month.

Green Party councillor Paul Woodhead, who represents Hednesford South on Cannock Chase Council and helps with the campaign, said: "We have recorded over 1,500 vehicles in four sessions observing over 100 motorists going over the speed limit, and even a couple of them travelling over twice the limit along residential streets. On a positive note we did not see the prevalence of mobile phone use by drivers as was feared."

This autumn, the Chronicle reported how the Wedges Mills Community Speedwatch group said it clocked up to 35 cars every hour driving too quickly along the A4601 Wolverhampton Road.

Meanwhile, police have received complaints about speeding in Cannock town centre – prompting increased patrols. Senior office assistant for the Cannock neighbourhood team, Karen Willis, said: "Specials have been in and around the Cannock town centre and surrounding areas carrying out spot checks."

● Brake – Page 5

TRAINS

London Midland to run more services

LONDON Midland is to run extra train services from Sunday when it introduces its new timetable.

Among the improvements are more fast evening weekday departures from Euston to Crewe, and earlier Sunday arrivals into Birmingham from Lichfield Trent Valley and City stations, and Shenstone. Bescot Stadium will also have a more frequent service with up to an extra 26 trains a day.

The company said the changes followed feedback from passengers wanting 'easier, simpler better journeys'.

● Revamp – Page 2

CHURCHES

Diocese launches its festive website

MORE than 1,200 Christmas services are taking place across the Lichfield Diocese – and details can be accessed with the click of a button at www.AChristmasNewYou.org

The Church of England has launched its #JoyToTheWorld Christmas campaign with www.AChristmasNearYou.org and four special videos which are being released throughout December.

The website enables people to enter their postcode and find Christmas services and events happening near them.

TOLL

200 millionth driver is a really lucky Guy

A DRIVER clocked as the 200 millionth customer to use the M6 Toll will be able to travel on it for free over the next year.

Guy Walker from Coventry won the prize after driving on the road on Friday and being 'surprised' by a toll booth attendant at the northbound plaza at junction T4.

The interim director, who works in Lichfield at Pink Home Loans, has used the road regularly for the last three months to avoid the M42 and A38. He said: "I normally pay by credit card and go on my way but I was asked to stop. At first I thought 'Am I in trouble?' but then they told me 'You're our lucky 200 millionth customer'."

INSIDE

TOP TRADERS' CELEBRATIONS

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Appeal over counterfeit banknotes

The Crimestoppers advert

A CRIME-fighting charity is appealing for information on the use of fake banknotes.

Crimestoppers wants help to identify those making, buying or selling counterfeit cash. Washroom advertising is being placed in pubs and bars to compliment extensive social media activity, with the addition of a 40" digital screen carrying the campaign artwork at the Walkabout Bar in Birmingham's Broad Street,.

The charity says in the first half of 2016, around 152,000 worthless counterfeit banknotes with a notional value of more than £3million were removed from the UK's streets, while the figure for the whole of 2015 was over £5 million.

Recent incidents reported include buyers turning up in person to use fake notes to pay for items sold on buy-and-sell websites such as Gumtree.

Signs to look out for include, on paper notes: Feeling for raised print across the words 'Bank of England'; Holding the note up to the light to check the watermark; Looking for the metallic thread running through every genuine note.

On the new polymer £5 note, signs include: Checking the see-through window and the portrait of the Queen; Looking at the Elizabeth tower to check it is gold on the front of the note and silver on the back and checking the foil patches

Crimestoppers chief executive Mark Hallas said: "The purpose of this campaign is to raise awareness of counterfeit money.

"We urge anyone with information on those making, selling or buying counterfeit notes, or simply wanting to find out more about the impact of this crime, to visit fakenotes.co.uk

Or, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Rail station on track for massive revamp

MULTI-MILLION pound improvements could be on the way at Cannock railway station to accommodate thousands of extra visitors travelling to the new Mill Green shopping complex.

The project would see platforms extended to cater for extra carriages and shops opened to bring the station 'into the 21st Century'.

The proposed revamp would also see the Lichfield Road station given a general facelift to improve accessibility and its appearance to visitors coming to the town.

Talks are under way between Cannock Chase Council, Network Rail and other relevant parties about enhancing the site.

Cannock has been prioritised but it is also hoped investment can be secured to bring in similar improvements to stations at Hednesford and Rugeley. It is hoped any works could be completed before 2019 when Mill Green, which will feature around 130 shops and restaurants, is set to open.

Overcrowding

Deputy council leader Gordon Alcott said: "Cannock station is not very big so as a consequence when Mill Green is up and running we will need a longer station.

"We need longer platforms so London Midland can put on longer trains to bring more people in as well as to stop the current overcrowding we are seeing.

"The main problem is, the shortness of the station means they are restricted as to how many carriages they can use.

"Most of our stations can only cater for two to three carriages. The other part of this is, we want to develop the area and make it more attractive for passengers to use, and more open. We would like to have shops and outlets so passengers can grab a newspaper or something to eat.

"The station has not had anything done to it since it opened [in 1989] and we want to bring it into the 21st Century."

The major hurdle for the project, expected to run into millions of pounds, will be securing funding and it is hoped organisations such as the West Midlands Combined Authority and Local Enterprise Partnerships could come on board. A council report indicates that Network Rail would be unlikely to pay for the scheme.

Thousands in town for switch-on

Some of the 3,000 people who were at the event *Picture: Cannock Photographic Society*

HEDNESFORD was brought alive with the annual Christmas lights switch-on supported by an estimated 3,000 residents.

The lights were switched on by poster competition winner Roxie Eccleston aged six, supported by the chair of the town council, Alan Pearson.

They were joined by school choirs singing Hark the Herald Angels Sing, with other entertainment provided by children from Pye Green Academy, Hednesford Valley High School, Staffordshire University Academy, West Hill Primary School, Kingsmead and St Peter's Primary School.

Local singer Jordan Adams was also there as the whole town came together the bring in the festive period.

Market Street was lined with more than 40 stalls from local businesses and community groups as well as charities and the emergency services.

Thanks

With the prize for the best stall going to SNAP Adventure Playground these were all joined by many town shops and the library staying open for the event and the prize for best dressed window being awarded to Glamour Hair Extensions. This added to the dancing from STARS Academy and the fairground rides to keep everyone involved all evening. Carol Fittes, chair of Hednesford in Partnership, said: "It is really great to see the town coming together for events like this."

Paul Woodhead, councillor for Hednesford South and a member of the organising committee, said: "Our thanks go to everyone who helped put this event on."

Poster colouring competition winners: 1 Roxie Eccelston, aged six; 2 Mya Wiggin, 10; 3 Lauren Price, seven.

Traders Best Dressed Window: 1 Glamour Hair Extensions; 2 Chase Eyecare; 3 Katherine House.

Best Market Street Stall: 1 SNAP Adventure Playground; 2 Hednesford Centennial Lions; 3

A good time for reflection and to count your blessings

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF BURNTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

I AM very proud to be the youngest Chairman of Burntwood Town Council and since May I have had the good fortune to meet lots of great people in my role, not just in Burntwood but also when I've represented the town in the wider district.

Christmas is a time when we should all try to think of people who are not as fortunate as we are and for people who are ill or have been bereaved this year.

We lead such busy lives but Christmas is a good time for reflection and to count our blessings.

Like a lot of families in Burntwood we have a member of our family who works in the emergency services and our thoughts and thanks should go to these people who work over the festive period while the rest of us have fun.

Burntwood is growing with new houses being built and your council will continue to strive to bring much needed shops and the healthcare facilities it needs and deserves.

On behalf of all the members and staff at Burntwood Town Council I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councillor Beth Fisher

Three burglaries in the same day

BURGLARS struck at three homes in the Lichfield area within a 24-hour period.

The first property, in Rykneld Street, Fradley, was targeted between 7am and 6.30pm on Wednesday last week. A Toshiba laptop and cash were stolen.

At 2.45pm the same day a resident of in Peregrine Close, Whittington, was confronted by a man who walked in through the unlocked front door.

The suspect is described as Eastern European, about 5ft 5in and thin with short dark hair and was wearing a black 'puffer' jacket and light blue jeans. He fled from the area.

The third incident happened in Hawksmoor Drive, Lichfield, overnight on Wednesday. The culprit broke into a garage and stole wine, spirits and beer.

Services in aid of children's charity

A NUMBER of Christingle services are being held in Staffordshire this month in aid of The Children's Society.

They include All Saints, Kings Bromley, on December 11, and St John's Church, Heath Hayes, on December 24. Visit christingle.org/findmyevent

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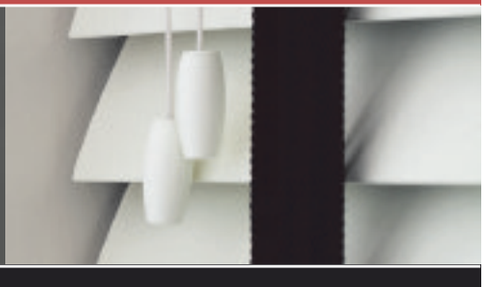

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Santa route is mapped out for his jolly tour

RUGELEY Rotary and Rugeley & District Lions Clubs have released details of their Christmas float route.

Thursday, December 8: Western Springs, Chase Side Road, Pool Meadow Close, Overpool Cl, Greenfields Drive, Green Lane to Plovers Rise down to bottom of Plovers Rise.

Friday, December 9: Etchinghill, Penk Drive North from Stag Close, then Bower Lane to The Beeches.

Monday, December 12: Old Eaton Road, Leyland Dr, Rishworth Av, Wolseley Road, Portobello, Richardson Way, Levett Grange, Wolseley Road, Albany Drive, Old Eaton Road.

December 13: Burnthill Lane, Pear Tree Estate, Burnthill Lane and Pear Tree Estate. Dec 14: Colton, Hill Ridware, Bellamour Way and High Street, Colton, Uttoxeter Road, Rake End Close, Wade Lane, Oaklands Close, School Lane, Hill Ridware.

Dec 15: Springfields, Parkhall Cl, Springfield Rd, Crabtree Way, Green Lane to Hawthorn Way. Dec 16: Draycott Estate/Lower Birches/Upper Longdon, Lower Birches Way, Draycott Estate, Upper Longdon.

● A Brereton business has saved the day for a village school PTA, by providing its Santa with a sleigh.

Friends of Hayes Meadow, a registered charity associated with Hayes Meadow School in Armitage, was struggling to find a vehicleand put out a plea on social media.

Shona Hawkins, customer service manager at Hawkins Logistics Ltd, saw the post and offered one of its fleet, free of charge.

Please go to GP, hospital urges

COUNTY Hospital is anticipating high demand for its temporary children's minor injuries unit over the next few weeks and has pleaded with patients to go elsewhere if possible.

The unit was opened on October 10 following the suspension of children's A&E services in August, and has since seen hundreds of people attend.

It is available for a range of injuries up to a broken bone but parents whose children have illnesses, rashes and fevers, vomiting, or diarrhoea should first go to a GP or call 111.

Dr Ann Marie Morris, at University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, which runs the hospital, said: " We would like to remind everybody of where to go to receive the very best care for their children."

Senior citizens' party at school

WOLGARSTON High School, Penkridge, hosted its annual senior citizens' Christmas party on Thursday.

Local pensioners and care home residents were wined, dined and entertained by the school's sixth formers.

Matron in £1.7m nursing home buyout

Hawkesyard Priory nursing home

THE matron at Hawkesyard Priory has completed a management buyout at the Armitage nursing home after a £1.7 million investment.

The investment, supported by Barclays, will allow the retention of local jobs and peace of mind for the existing residents and their families. The 106-bed home currently employs 140.

Susan Harrison, company director and matron, said: "We specialise in providing high quality residential care to people with differing needs, our aim being the provision of residential based care with extras, ranging from home cooked meals, day trips, craft activities or simply the time to have a conversation.

"As a former Dominican Priory we even have our own church and hold regular communion services every Sunday.

"Demand for quality services with dedicated care is set to increase across the region and placements are already limited so our investment is vital to help meet Staffordshire's projected care needs."

She added: "The investment will continue to enhance the reputation of our service. We have already established strong occupancy rates, which is an indicator that we are doing the right things for our residents and their families."

Patrick Convey, Barclays relationship director, said: "Susan has a real passion for quality care, is a registered nurse and has over 40 years of experience in the sector.

"When Susan decided to seize the opportunity and acquire full ownership of the home we were ready and able to create a funding package to make it happen."

New talks on £3m cuts in services for addicts

PLANS to make multi-million pound cuts to drug and alcohol services in Staffordshire will get another hearing after more than 40,000 people said they oppose the move.

Staffordshire County Council has proposed to reduce funding in the area to the tune of £3.4 million following a lengthy dispute with the NHS over social care funding which ultimately left a £15m black hole in the budget.

But the proposals have received vehement opposition from people who say the reduction in funding could result in deaths.

Councillor White

A campaign pleading against the cuts has been backed by comedian Russell Brand on social media.

Former addict Graham Mitchell, from Stafford, battled drink and drugs for 35 years before finally getting help from the council-funded BAC O'Connor Centre, which faces having its funding halved and possible closure. It opened in 2009.

He said: "If the funding is cut, the centre will close. If the centre closes, people will die.

"There were three people who died who were on the waiting list. That is just the waiting list.

"It really has made such a difference to local communities. I am fearful on a purely selfish basis of what I am going to do [if the centre closes]."

Councillor Alan White, Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing, said: "After being left with a £15 million shortfall in our Better Care Fund to provide more community care, we have had no choice but to review the funding we currently provide to some non-statutory health, care and welfare services.

"Like the people who have signed the petition, we do recognise the devastating consequences that alcohol and drugs can have on some people's lives, and none of the decisions on funding have been taken lightly."

A discussion on the policy will take place at a full Staffordshire County Council meeting in the Council Chamber at the County Buildings in Stafford today (Thursday).

National Lottery winners Brenda Portch, centre, and James and Sue Schofield hand over the gingerbread house to the wildlife trust

Winners' help is on the house

A GROUP of National Lottery millionaires have handed the keys to a giant gingerbread house to a charity.

The winners, who boast a combined wealth of more than £12 million, funded the work for the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

The conversion used more than 100 litres of paint, 60 paintbrushes, 30 rollers, 40 bespoke wooden shapes, six sacks of fake snow and 25 metres of Christmas lights.

The structure – opened by invited schoolchildren as part of #GivingTuesday – is to be used by the trust as a family education facility.

Julian Woolford, chief executive of the trust, said: "I must say a big thank you to all of the lottery winners for thinking of us." Over the years, wildlife trusts have received several million pounds from Lottery winners to help towards environmental projects.

Lottery winners helping with the festive makeover included Neil Jones and Julie Kirkham, from Stoke-on-Trent. Neil said: "It's good to know that other incredibly important local projects just like this one are lottery winners as well."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman injured as car and lorry crash

A WOMAN suffered a serious head injury in a crash involving a car and a lorry.

The accident was near Four Ashes on the A449 Stafford Road between Gailey and the M54 at 3.15pm on Thursday. Paramedics took the woman, aged in her 40s, to Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital.

A second person was also taken to the hospital but the extent of their injuries is unknown. An ambulance service spokeswoman said: "We had two ambulances and two Midlands Air Ambulances at the scene."

Band and singers in seasonal show

THE Staffordshire Band and St Stephen's Singers are giving a Christmas concert at St Stephen's Church, in Bideford Way, Cannock, on Friday, December 16, at 7.30pm.

Choir secretary Sheila Jackson said the programme will be a mixture of traditional Christmas music by the band and choir but with community carols and songs for the audience.

Tickets are £5 available from choir members or by calling 01543 577348. The ticket price includes light seasonal refreshments.

Call 01543 577393 for details.

Presents treat at Santa visit event

SANTA will be making an appearance at Burntwood Methodist Church on Saturday between midday and 3pm to give out presents to local children.

The Cannock Road church at Swan Island has been busily preparing for the event.

There is no charge to see Santa, and each child will receive a free gift.

Refreshments will be on sale including hot pork baps, mince pies and hot drinks. For more information contact Sue Hoddinott on 07518 047655.

Octonauts party for launch of swim lessons

PENKRIDGE Leisure Centre is to hold an Octonauts pool party for families with young children.

The event on Saturday is named after the TV CBeebies programme about undersea explorers and is suitable for beginners aged three to four and improvers up to the age of 12.

The party, which will include fun activities and games, will take place from 10am to 11am to celebrate the launch of new Saturday morning swimming lessons in January.

£1.5k help for veterans

A MILITARY charity raised £1,500 to help veterans and their families. Wolverhampton-based Dependants and Relatives of Uniformed Military (DRUM) donated £1,000 to Combat Stress and £500 to the Burma Star Association. The group raised the cash by holding fun days and raffles.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

THANKS for your memories of misinterpreting the names of great composers (Shy Kovsky, etc). One reader recalls the golden age of vinyl when he asked at the music shop counter for an LP by Monteverdi. The assistant seemed unable to find the disc. Turned out she was searching not under M but under V, for a Mr Monty Verdi.

ANOTHER reader reminds us of Eric and Ernie who thought they were performing a musical item by Paganini, only to discover they were on page nine.

IN politics, it is unwise to assume anything. So don't be carried away by the assumption this week that Paul Nuttall, the new leader of Ukip who speaks with a broad Merseyside accent, will be a natural magnet for working-class voters in general and Labour voters in particular. Whatever Scousers may like to believe, not everybody loves a Scouse accent.

HOWEVER, I do admire Nuttall's suggestion of rejecting the endlessly convoluted and time-consuming Article 50 process and asking Parliament to repeal the 1972 European Communities Act to kick-start the Brexit process. Today, this is being presented as something outrageous. In fact, throughout our 40-year membership of the Union, we were assured time after time by the Europhiles that if the UK ever wanted to quit, it was a simple matter of repealing the Act. If it was true then, it must be true now. And if it has never been true, let us call the liars to account.

IN an interview, Beattie Edmondson, 29-year-old daughter of Jennifer Saunders and husband Adrian Edmondson, says as a child she had no idea what her showbiz parents did. By chance, I have been catching up on Bottom, the BBC comedy series screened from 1991-95 starring Ade Edmondson and the late, great Rik Mayall. Because of its frantic, gratuitous violence and treatment of women as sex objects, Bottom could never be commissioned today and yet it was one of the funniest and most inventive TV comedies ever made. That's what your dad did, Beattie. In a wilder age, he pushed the boundaries and made millions laugh. Be proud of him.

AFTER yesterday's tale of a mouse gnawing through a car's fuel pipe, the most popular deterrent to under-bonnet rodents, according to the internet, seems to be peppermint oil. I have duly dunked some cotton wool in the aromatic oil and fixed it in the engine compartment. It's like driving a very big After Eight mint.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Vicar unmoved by benefit sanctions

A CANNOCK vicar, unmoved by sanctions imposed on benefit claimants, held a stationary protest.

Rev Edwin Myers, minister in the Cannock Chase Methodist Church Circuit, was among the gathering of Methodist ministers at the Autumn Presbyterial Synod at Bilston Methodist Church who made a Mannequin Challenge video.

The trend taking social media by storm involves people freezing for the camera, while music plays in the background. The video shows ministers hearing about the issue, responding with prayer and worship and then staging a protest outside the church with the theme of 'Rethink Sanctions'. YouTube hits have been steadily growing since it was posted.

Mr Myers said: "Our churches are very concerned about justice in our society. We work hard to respond to need. For instance, St Stephen's Methodist Church makes a weekly collection for the local Foodbank as well as Mill Street Methodist Church being a venue for weekly Warming Welcome drop-in for hot meals.

"When I heard about how the benefit sanctions work and how people's payments can be stopped, I realised that sanctions are a reason why people end up needing a food bank in the first place. The video was fun to do but highlights a serious issue."

The Methodist Church is joining with other partners to ask the Government to rethink the way that benefit sanctions operate. The video, titled 'ReThink Sanctions', can be found at https://youtu.be/ihkVGwkYxBw

Last of residents leave closed nursing home

By Marion Brennan

THE last residents have moved out of a nursing home which was closed last week over safety fears.

Residents at the Sister Dora Care Home in Milford have been transferred to homes as far away as Tamworth, Wednesfield and Burton upon Trent.

Inspectors from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) took the decision to remove the home's licence after an inspection on November 23.

A total of 32 residents were moved from the home, which employs 42 members of staff.

Jan Sensier, chief executive of Healthwatch Staffordshire, which monitors health service delivery, said: "We are surprised and disappointed to learn of the immediate closure of the Sister Dora Care Home. We know that this home has had problems in the past, and we have liaised with the county council and CQC about these.

Difficult

"However, from recent feedback, we had hoped that the service was improving. Our first concern now is for the residents of this home, many of whom are elderly and vulnerable, and whose lives are being disrupted by having to move so quickly."

"We understand some of these residents have to move a distance away, making it very difficult for their relatives to visit them."

The CQC said action was taken to protect the safety and welfare of residents after it was announced the home was closing.

Caroline Walker, a spokeswoman for the home, said: "Both the regulator and our own internal audit processes identified a number of concerns within the home and we were working hard to address these.

"However, we regret that the Care Quality Commission has taken the decision to remove the home's registration. We understand that this is a difficult time for residents, relatives and our staff, and we are working closely with service users, their families and social services."

Hope trek not spoiled by rain, dear

Getting into the festive spirit are Roddy the Reindeer' with seven-year-old Zach Dunning and charity fundraiser Becky Brooks ahead of Reindeer Ramble on Cannock Chase this weekend

FAMILIES can lace up for a festive ramble on Cannock Chase this weekend in aid of a children's charity.

The Newlife Reindeer Ramble takes place on Saturday, from 11am and will help support disabled children.

The 3km route sets off from the Visitor Centre at Marquis Drive.

All participants will be given a set of flashing reindeer antlers and Santa will be putting in an appearance – with a small gift for every child who takes part. Entrants can walk, run or cycle the course. The event – organised by Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children – costs £10 per adult and £5 per child to enter. Dogs are free.

All of the proceeds will help fund specialist equipment for children with disabilities and terminal illness in Staffordshire. For more information call 01543 431 442 or email rbrooks@newlifecharity.co.uk

Pensioner tricked out of £11,500 by roofer

AN elderly Rugeley man was tricked into paying £11,500 for dodgy roof work, a court heard.

David John Allen cold-called the 76-year-old in June 2014 and, after successfully gaining work once, kept going back to extort more money from the man, Stafford Crown Court was told.

Allen kept overcharging for the work, which was found to be of a poor standard, and also lacked the right paperwork.

Trading Standards officers with Staffordshire County Council brought a prosecution against him under the Fraud Act.

Alenn pleaded guilty to dishonestly making a false representation in order to make gains for himself to the tune of £11,500.

Staffordshire Police officers gave evidence in court, and the force has since described Allen's actions as 'despicable'.

Special Sergeant Kevin Lee said: "Allen targeted a man who was in vulnerable circumstances.

"He cultivated a friendly relationship with him so that he could cheat him out of his money."

The county council has used the case to warn other people about the dangers of cold-callers.

Cabinet member for communities and the environment Councillor Gill Heath said: "People should obtain quotes from more than one reputable trader if work is needed."

Allen, 56, of Kingshurst, Birmingham, will be sentenced on January 17.

Police info plea as motorbikes stolen

A MOTORBIKE was stolen from a house in Hammerwich.

The blue and white BMW KRS100 machine was stolen without keys from the driveway of a property in Burntwood Road sometime between 2pm on November 25 and 9am the following day.

It was followed by the theft of a white motorbike from a property in the Cannock Chase district.

The Triumph Daytona 675R was taken from Sutton Close, Rugeley between 7pm on November 26 and 10am the next day.

Anyone with information on either theft is asked to call police on 101.

A police spokesman said: "Please be on your guard and ensure vehicles are left secure at all times and stored away wherever possible."

Fogarty to ride out for air ambulance

FORMER World Superbike champion Carl Fogarty will be leading next year's Bike4Life Ride Out on April 30 in aid of the Midlands Air Ambulance.

Now in its seventh year, Bike4Life attracts 6,000 bikers, riding to the Bike4Life Festival at RAF Cosford.

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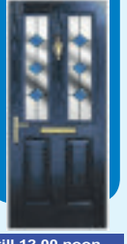

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MP joins in Google drive to boost businesses

EXPERTS from Google will give businesses a masterclass in using the internet to increase their growth.

The Google Digital Garage tour will visit the Civic Centre in Beecroft Road tomorrow (Friday) to give a seminar and one-to-one mentoring.

The tour is part of Google's Digital Garage project – a commitment to provide digital skills training to 200,000 small businesses across the UK by the end of the year.

Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, who is co-hosting the event, said: "It is fantastic news Google's experts are coming to Cannock Chase for the Digital Garage. I saw Google's Digital Garage as part of a select committee earlier this year so I am really pleased they will be coming to Cannock Chase.

"I truly believe a boost to online skills can lead to business expansion.

"In the 21st century the internet and the digital economy hold the key to development for many local businesses. If we can help more local firms get online, then local companies will successfully grow, providing more prosperity and jobs for local people.

"The knowledge Google have is world-class and I would encourage as many people as possible to sign up and get involved in this free training."

The Google masterclass aims to teach businesses what is needed to gain a competitive advantage in the ever changing digital landscape.

To sign up for the free consultations and workshops, follow the link to: https://events.withgoogle.com/digital-garage-on-tour-cannock-chase/

Ramblers out in force for AGM

MORE than 80 people turned out for the Staffordshire Area Ramblers AGM last weekend.

Chase & District Ramblers hosted the gathering at Burntwood Memorial Hall on Sunday, which was preceded by two local circular walks of five or seven miles from the hall.

Following refreshments the AGM was held, before a presentation by Anne Walker of Cannock Chase AONB.

The Chase Ramblers walk this Sunday is the moderate 10-mile Darwin Walk from Lichfield.

Departure time as usual is Hednesford Railway Station car park, Anglesey Street, at 9am prompt. New walkers are welcome. Contact Barry on 01543 684254.

Customers give to toys appeal

CHILDREN across the West Midlands will enjoy a happier Christmas thanks to Kleeneze customers.

They added a toy to their catalogue orders, to be presented to families supported by Barnado's.

Illegal cigarettes discovered in shop

A detection dog with the haul of tobacco

THOUSANDS of fake and illegal cigarettes were seized in a large-scale raid at a Rugeley shop.

Staffordshire County Council's trading standards team made the seizure last Friday. They discovered 17,120 cigarettes, believed to be fake or illegal, and 10.35kg of fake hand-rolling tobacco. The team was joined by tobacco detection dogs which uncovered hidden compartments in a store room.

It is the latest in a series of visits targeting premises supplying illicit and fake tobacco in Staffordshire. The ongoing operation is being funded by central Government in recognition of the success in the county in tackling the illicit tobacco trade. County council officers are now considering a prosecution.

A concealed shelf installed behind a cupboard contained American Legend cigarettes, thought to be illegally imported, as well as cartons of Mayfair, Richmond and Marlborough Red, all believed to be counterfeit.

Fake tobacco and cigarettes were also found in a nearby vehicle. County Council communities leader Gill Heath said: "Our ongoing operation against illicit tobacco continues and this is an example of how an intelligence-led response is seeing successes.

"The team has disrupted the supply of potentially dangerous tobacco and cigarettes."

She said the use of tobacco detection dogs proved invaluable. "Without the dogs, the team may well have searched the shop and left within 20 minutes. There is no way the concealed compartment, or the tobacco hidden in the vehicle, would have been found."

Brake in time, young motorists are urged

DRIVERS are being reminded to take care on rural routes in a new campaign supported by the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership.

The campaign is targeting drivers aged 25 to 34 with the message 'Brake before the bend, not on it'.

In 2015 nearly 40 per cent of serious collisions happened on the county's rural roads, with younger drivers accounting for about a fifth of all casualties.

Country roads often have more hazards such as sharp bends, overgrown verges, hidden dips, blind corners and concealed entrances which can make driving conditions more difficult.

Furthermore, young and inexperienced drivers are also more likely to take unnecessary risks on rural roads, forgetting hazards like mud on the road, animals, people out walking and slow moving tractors.

Speaking on behalf of the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership, Councillor Mark Deaville, cabinet member for transport and highways with Staffordshire County Council, said: "We are asking drivers to take extra care, especially younger drivers. And with darker evenings and wintry weather upon us, people also need to slow down and drive to the conditions.

Prepare

"The biggest contributory factor to collisions on rural roads is loss of control, which is often associated with inappropriate speed at bends. Slowing down, being aware of potential hazards and thinking what might be around the corner are all simple things that can help keep people safer on the road." More advice is available at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/roadsafety/winterdriving

● Staffordshire Police are reminding motorists to prepare for extreme winter weather.

Drivers should give themselves a bit more time in the morning to prepare their vehicle safely before setting off. "Dig out the scraper and de-icer so that you can de-frost your windows, or use a windscreen cover overnight," a spokesman for the force said.

"If you need to defrost your vehicle, ensure you stay with it and don't leave it unattended with the keys inside. Drivers should always be in control of their vehicle when the engine is running, even when you're loading or unloading. Leaving the engine running to 'warm up' during the winter months not only risks having the vehicle stolen – it's against the law."

Merger of colleges given backing

The Cannock campus of South Staffordshire College, The Green

SOUTH Staffordshire and Walsall colleges are set to merge following an official recommendation from the Government.

A Department for Education report states that South Staffordshire College, which had to make £2 million of cuts last year, would benefit from the 'financial strength' of its Walsall counterpart stating the merger would create a college with a combined £59m turnover. The move is likely to have implications on staff and courses at both sites.

South Staffordshire has campuses in Cannock, Penkridge, Lichfield and Tamworth. A Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership report made reference to 'merger opportunities' although both colleges initially played down the idea.

Now the Department for Education has published its final 'area review' for Staffordshire recommending the two organisations become one college.

Councillor Ben Adams, the council's learning and skills boss, said: "The focus of this review has been to ensure colleges have financial stability, whilst also ensuring that students have access to the best education.

"I think college provision in the county will quickly become stronger and better able to face the future."

Councillor Ben Adams

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thief takes cash in daylight burglary

A WALLET containing cash and bank cards was stolen by a burglar who raided a home in broad daylight.

The property in Lock Basin Close, Churchbridge, was targeted between 8.45am and 3.30pm on Tuesday last week after getting in through an unlocked back door.

A Staffordshire Police spokesman said: "Be on your guard.

"Ensure items of value and keys are securely stored out of view."

Anyone with details on the offence should contact Staffordshire Police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Plans submitted to district council

PLANNING applications received by Lichfield District Council include:

Ingle House, Shute Hill, Chorley – erection of single-storey outbuilding to form garage, store and workshop.

Land rear of 127 Cannock Road, Chase Terrace – two-storey extension to front, side and rear plus single-storey extensions to front and rear to form new semi-detached dwelling.

13 Rake Hill, Burntwood – provision of alternative access to serve three dwellings at Rake Hill.

Land adjacent to 58 Leam Drive, Burntwood – detached bungalow.

Pre-school soccer sessions launched

THE first pre-school football class has been set up in Cannock. Socatots are running the classes at Cannock Childrens' Centre, Cannock Road, Blackfords.

The regular sessions offer physical activity for toddlers. Socatots already provides pre-school football from walkers to the age of five and hs 200 children attending regular classes.

Call 01889 580234 for more informatiom or e-mail, emily.whitchurch@socatots.co.uk

Christmas in trenches is Arboretum talk topic

CHRISTMAS in the trenches during the First World War will be the subject of a talk at the National Memorial Arboretum next weekend.

Alan Wakefield, head of First World War and early 20th century conflicts at Imperial War Museums, will give the talk on Saturday, December 17 at 2pm. Booking is advised on 01283 245 100. Cost is £3 in advance or £4 on the day.

A candlelit carol service will follow at 6pm. Entry is free and open to all.

Development rejected

PLANS for a multi-million pound development near Stafford have been rejected. Councillors voted against the scheme for a science, technology and commercial park for part of Hixon Airfield. The application was made by Jonathan Lloyd Developments.

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Plastic not fantastic, or tasteful for vegans

APPARENTLY the new plastic £5 note contains some animal fat, and this has made some militant vegans very angry.

And broad-minded right-on so-and-so that I am, I can see where they are coming from.

These new fivers taste dreadful, far too salty, and if you eat three or more you get the most terrible indigestion.

So, to be helpful, and prevent any unfortunate issues from arising, I am going to offer my services.

Any vegans who unwittingly come into contact with the new fiver, please feel free to send them to me at the Chronicle – the address is on the opposite page – and I promise to dispose of them responsibly.

Well, I promise to dispose of them, anyway.

■ ■ ■

I SUPPOSE we should be pleased that local authorities are to get a £2.4 million boost to deal with potholes in this neck of the woods.

Some of the roads around here, particularly in the more rural areas, are a disgrace, and I'm sure many of us will at some time or other have had to fork out the £150-plus for a damaged alloy wheel because of this.

However, forgive me for sounding a note of caution.

A few months ago I noticed some workmen laying a cable from one side of the road to the other.

It involved a digging a trench about six inches deep, and maybe eight inches in width, and frankly it could have been covered by a bit of hardboard when the work was not being done.

It wasn't, of course. Instead there were temporary traffic lights in operation for an entire week, three days while the work was done on one side of the road, four days for the other.

This resulted in traffic delays even when there were no other cars about, such as the early hours of the morning. All for 12ft of cable.

This wouldn't have mattered so much had it not been for the fact that at one point there were three similar sets of lights along my route to work.

In Seisdon, the work was confined to the pavement, but they still found it necessary to surround it with barriers and install a set of traffic lights.

Now would that have happened 30 or even 20 years ago?

I can't help but think that back then the work would have been done in a couple of days, with a few cones around the affected area.

Now, it seems that for even the most minor of works, the full play set has to come out.

Yes, the potholes in our roads need to be repaired.

I just dread the disruption that the work is going to cause.

The old Elephant & Castle pub in Wolverhampton

Gas Showroom, decorated for the Coronation in 1937

The site of the former Parish's Restaurant, West Bromwich

Historic buildings to be talk of the town

£10m of Lottery funding could enable landmark buildings to find a new home at a popular attraction. **ROB COX** reports

HISTORIC buildings from across the region could resurrected at the Black Country Living Museum under multi-million pound plans to create a 1940-60s town.

Landmark community buildings, much-loved pubs and industrial sites are among those which have been targeted by bosses at the popular tourist attraction.

While some would be taken down brick-by-brick and then rebuilt at the Dudley site, others which no longer exist would be recreated using archive images and information.

The proposed attraction is reliant upon £10 million of Heritage Lottery funding and a bid has been submitted for the cash.

If successful work could begin in 2018 and 93 jobs would be created – with hundreds more while work is carried out.

Demolition

Among the buildings identified for the 1940-60s town is Woodside Library in Stourbridge Road, Dudley, which has lain empty and boarded up since it was closed in 2008 under council cost-cutting measures.

Also being lined-up for 'translocation' is the West Bromwich Gas Showroom in the town's High Street, and the neighbouring Parish's Restaurant – both of which have been scheduled for demolition.

The showroom was badly damaged by a Blitz raid in 1940.

The Elephant & Castle pub in Wolverhampton was controversially demolished in 2001 but could be revived as a 1950s watering hole to inform visitors about changes in social attitudes towards drinking and social life.

A bowling green could also form part of the attraction, as could a brickworks modelled on the former Harris & Pearson site in Quarry Bank. The museum's chief executive Andrew Lovett said he was excited about the proposed town, plans for which are the culmination of a major research project.

The Harris & Pearson building, in Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill

Woodside Library, Dudley, is earmarked for 'translocation'

He said: "This would be a historic development centred on the 1940s through to the 1960 and which would include a town and also great industrial representation.

"The buildings we have identified would be clustered and we have had great fun designing the streetscape. When was the last time someone got to design a town in the Black Country?

"We think we have got a very compelling bid for the funding but you have to recognise it is a very competitive environment in which we are seeking the money.

"The message I want to get across which has come about from consultations is about the amount of support we have had for the development from the people of the Black Country. It is hugely heartening for us. It is easy to forget and take that sort of thing for granted but it is a real boost to think we are doing the right thing."

Another building which has been identified for the town is William Griffin & Sons, a chain-making firm in Woods Lane, Cradley, which has also been earmarked for demolition by Sandwell Council.

It would be used to demonstrate the industry's move to merchandised production and the globalisation of trade during the post-war period.

But Mr Lovett said he was most excited by the prospect of relocating Woodside Library with action having being sought by campaigners for several years.

He added: "Having had discussion with the local authority we are aware there is a covenant on that building from the Earl of Dudley who wanted it to be maintained for public use.

"So if that can be brought here it would be great and it would satisfy that covenant.

"It is a large and very striking building and is very much of the style we are after for what we want to create."

A decision on the funding will be made in the spring. If successful, the £10m would be used to create the town, a new visitor centre and car park, as well as the extension of the museum's tram line.

There are also plans to turn the current Rolfe Street Entrance Building into a new learning centre to enable the development of a new learning programme.

Mr Lovett said the scheme could create 93 jobs at the museum, 58 at other Black Country firms and around 450 while construction takes place.

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Traders rewarded for commitment to great value and customer service

Bella's Coffee House was voted best Hednesford Café/restaurant

Lachmere – best shop in Rugeley

Jabu Hair Studio – Hednesford Shop of the Year

Amanda Milling, left, presents The Rug Stall's certificate

THE eight local businesses voted Cannock Chase's best independent retailers for 2016 have been crowned.

In its third year, the Cannock Chase Best Local Shops & Market Stalls competition asked people to vote for their favourite independent retailers.

The winners were announced at the weekend on Small Business Saturday. Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, who organised the competition, visited each of the winners and presented them with the certificates to display in their premises.

The winners are: Rugeley Café/restaurant – Made With Love Tea Rooms; Rugeley Shop – Lachmere; Rugeley Market – Meat to Please You;

Cannock Café/restaurant – Caffe del Nino; Cannock Shop – Bathaholics; Cannock Market – The Rug Stall;

Hednesford Café/restaurant – Bella's Coffee House; Hednesford Shop – Jabu Hair Studio.

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Advice on reducing loneliness

A SURVEY by Independent Age, the older people's charity, found 35 per cent – more than one in three – of those aged 75 and over in Britain say that feelings of loneliness are out of their control.

That is equivalent to more than 1.8 million people.

And 23 per cent – almost one in four – worry about how often they feel lonely.

To help older people recognise why they might feel lonely and to offer a few tips for simple steps they can take to reduce loneliness, we've launched a new, free advice guide called 'If you're feeling lonely: How to stay connected in older age'.

It is completely free to order and download from independentage.org/lonely-guide or by calling 0800 319 6789.

For those who would like to help in some other way, Independent Age has launched its Christmas appeal to raise funds to help combat loneliness.

JANET MORRISON
Chief executive

Don't assume scientists are always right

BACK in 2012 a document was hailed by the media as new evidence that Jesus Christ had a wife.

A Harvard professor revealed the discovery of a document that suggested Jesus may have had a wife; other academics had doubts about the claim.

Not that most people would know that, as the global media pounced upon the chance to throw doubt on the Christian gospels, to the delight of atheists and Bible critics, so the idea that Jesus may have had a wife was lodged in the minds of many. However, the truth is now out – the document is a fake. Dr Karen King, a historian at Harvard Divinity School, staked her reputation on the authenticity of the ancient scrap of papyrus.

Two radio carbon dating tests confirmed the papyrus was ancient, and the ink was of the right chemical make-up of 2,000 years ago.

She had received the papyrus from a pornographer called Walter Fritz but she failed to check Fritz's credentials or his story. Fritz had once worked as a tour guide in Berlin's Egyptian museum which is as close as he ever got to being an expert.

Fritz said the facts don't matter, what matters is entertainment.

The morals of this story are (a) don't believe everything you read or hear about the Bible to be true and (b) don't assume scientists always have the right answers.

M FAWDREY
Hednesford

Lights switch-on is organised by traders

I AM writing this note on behalf of the Cannock Traders Association in response to the letter from Joanne Brownhill of Cannock ("Lights switch-on was a wonderful event", November 24).

We are extremely pleased that you enjoyed the lights switch-on event on November 18.

However, this is not organised by the council but by the Cannock Traders Association with partnership funding from the council and traders.

This has been the case for the past eight years, although very few people are aware.

There are a few dedicated people and traders who always ensure that the event is a success, and it's nice to hear that it went down well, so thank you again for your kind comments.

SHEILA DUNNING
CTA Events Coordinator

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Do you know my brother?

MY name is Mark Wayne Arnold, son of Bill and Florence Arnold. I am trying to trace my brother Steven William Arnold as I have news of a bereavement in the family. He is married to Becky and I believe he lives in the Cannock/Brownhills area and would appreciate it if anyone who knows him could ask him to get in touch via Facebook or my email address, marka0778@hotmail.co.uk. Thanks.

MARK ARNOLD
Birmingham

Tories got it right for a change

PAUL Witton writes many letters to the Chronicle and I rarely agree with any of them but "Hopes of avoiding poverty shattered" (November 17) hit an all-time low in my opinion.

The present Tory government have actually made a correct decision for a change with this welfare cap of £20,000 from £26,000 for unemployed families with many children.

Mr Witton claims that this will hit the life chances of the poorest children. If these households are so poor, why do they keep having more and more children?

The answer is simple. It's because these work-shy layabouts can make more money from the increased benefits and all the other freebies that go with it that they think they have got a God-given right to have.

I work full-time and have done for 30 years and I would love to take home £26,000 a year.

RICHARD BATCHELOR
Norton Canes

Buses are no better than 50 years ago

THE year is 2016 and still the bus service in the Cannock area is no better than 50 years ago.

We get changes that usually last for six months and are then abandoned.

The worst thing for any traveller is unreliability, and in Cannock and district that is exactly what we get.

It took my wife three hours to get from Stafford Hospital to Cannock and then a taxi home last month.

The reason for this letter is waiting for a bus from Aldi to Wyrley for over an hour and again another taxi.

I could fill this page with other instances but it could be that we are just unlucky.

ROGER ALLEN
Great Wyrley

Speeding cars near nursery are a danger to children

OUR beloved cat was tragically run over on November 9 outside our house and the nursery in Eskrett Street.

We had him for 14 years and he is much missed.

The driver was overtaking parked cars by the nursery and drove off.

A lovely lady and friend kindly took care of him and took him to the vets.

They did not leave their name, so I hope they read this as I would like to say a big thank you, it really helped.

To the driver: this happened by the nursery. Cars drive too fast along Eskrett Street.

Need I say more? It could have been a child.

MRS S D ROSKELL
Hednesford

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£1.6m cash pledged to blitz county's potholes

STAFFORDSHIRE and the Black Country will get £2.4 million to tackle potholes in the next year.

The funding from the Government will be enough to fill more than 45,000 potholes across the two areas.

On the back of last week's Autumn Statement the Department for Transport has revealed its latest package of road improvements in the West Midlands. It has also confirmed how much each council will receive from the Pothole Fund in 2017/18.

Staffordshire County Council is the big winner in the region and will get £1.6m – the largest sum handed out in the West Midlands – and around £500,000 more than the authority received for this year.

At an estimated cost of £53 to fix a pothole the county can expect to see 29,800 filled in next year. All Black Country councils will also receive thousands of pounds more than they did this year.

Largest

Dudley will receive the largest amount with £238,000, up from £172,000 this year, while Sandwell is down to be given £225,000, an increase of £65,000.

Walsall has been allocated £188,000 – £48,000 more than this year – while Wolverhampton, which had £110,000 for 2016-17, will get £173,000.

In response to Staffordshire's substantial increase in funding the county council's highways boss Mark Deaville, said: "Maintaining good roads are important to the council, to local communities and to businesses and any further investment to tackle potholes is always welcome.

"We will now be looking at how we can invest next year's allocation to get the maximum benefits for road users and the best value for money for taxpayers.

"Although we welcome the news, it is important to remember that as well as fixing existing potholes, new ones are also occurring, so it is an ongoing challenge."

Bags of help for garden

Hettie Piggott, of Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, and Councillor Christine Mitchell dig in to revamp the land at the back of St Luke's Church

A PATCH of rundown land behind a church is being transformed thanks to £12,000 raised from shopping bags.

Cannock Chase District Council has revealed the redevelopment of land behind St Luke's Church Centre.

The land, which has been a hub for anti-social behaviour, is being transformed into the Chase Fit Sensory Garden over the next year.

The work will be funded by the £12,000 donated via the Tesco's Bags of Help campaign. Managing director of the council's Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, Pete Burt said: "We are really grateful to Tesco for supporting this project. Seeing this garden come to life is a really exciting prospect."

Plans include an informal section with trees and wild flowers and a more formal garden to include raised beds at varying heights.

A footpath will be introduced connecting the underground to the town centre and the redevelopment will also include a series of tree works.

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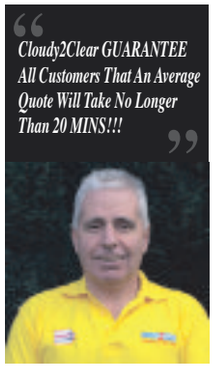

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Commissioner sings the praises of 'vital' PCSOs

STAFFORDSHIRE'S Police & Crime Commissioner gave the lowdown on tackling crime in the county at a meeting of tenants and residents.

Matthew Ellis addressed the latest meeting of the Chase Tenants and Residents' Federation Consultation at the Museum of Cannock Chase.

He told the 14 members about the importance of PCSOs and the vital role they play in neighbourhood policing.

Mr Ellis also provided an update on the Staffordshire Police Cadet Service and said the Cannock unit was doing very well.

He said: "I would like to thank Chase Tenants and Residents' Federation for their warm welcome and for having me as their guest speaker, the reception they gave me was fantastic.

Highlight

"I was able to update members of the group on the work currently being done in Staffordshire around cyber safety, technology and the Staffordshire Police Cadet Service.

"I was also able to highlight the benefit of neighbourhood PCSOs and the vital role they play in communities."

Anne Ames, Chairman of Chase Tenants and Residents' Federation, said they were extremely pleased to hear from Mr Ellis.

"All those present found his presentation to be extremely interesting and informative, together with the commissioner's openness in answering questions. This was a very successful event."

Businesses can become patrons or sponsors of the Cadets scheme to help fund uniforms and equipment, in return for publicity, a framed certificate and other opportunities.

Calll the Police & Crime Commissioner's office on 01785 232270 or email pcc@staffordshire.pcc.pnn.gov.uk to request a visit from the PCC or write to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, Staffordshire Police HQ (Block 9), Weston Road, Stafford, ST18 0YY.

Gearing up for growth

Craig Niven, owner of Staffordshire Car Care, in his 800 sq ft unit on Lea Hall Enterprise Park, Rugeley, with colleagues Ed and Jordan

AN entrepreneur is doubling the size of his company premises after revving up business over the last two years.

Craig Niven, owner of Staffordshire Car Care, has moved into an 800 sq ft unit on Lea Hall Enterprise Park, Rugeley, to keep up with the increasing demand for his bespoke car cleaning service and detailing work.

By doubling the size of the premises the 35-year-old is now able to accommodate three cars inside his studio, and can also provide customers with a waiting area, video demonstrations and refreshments.

The premises have been fitted with state-of-the-art equipment including a vehicle lift for cleaning the underside of a car and removing wheels for cleaning and coating and a digital infrared paint drying system for curing paint coatings to the contours of the vehicle body.

Craig said: "One car a week for friends and family soon turned into one car a day for paying customers and it's grown since then.

"It was imperative for me to set up a facility that is not only the best in the country using the best products, equipment and practices but to also offer a personable, professional, expert service at an affordable price."

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£3.9m hazard training centre plan at fire station submitted

The centre will feature a number of sets to replicate dangerous situations

The site will simulate several hazards

A fire damaged bedroom will also feature

Visitors can observe firefighters carrying out their skills

PLANS have been lodged to redevelop Stafford Fire Station into a £3.9m public hazard training centre.

Formal planning proposals were submitted to Stafford Borough Council at the end of September and the plans were discussed by the fire services's Strategy and Resources Committee last month. If planning permission is granted it is estimated the centre could be open by early 2018.

It aims to drive down the high number of accidental deaths in the county. The number of fire engine bays would reduce from four to one, in line with the number of appliances operating at the station, making way for a host of other services.

The main feature would be a Life Skills Centre laid out like a television studio and featuring a number of 'sets' replicating real-life hazardous situations such as railway crossings, canal paths and dangerous road junctions.

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FOCUS ON HEDNESFORD

Ambitious art project to bridge community gap

Project Consultant Steve Cooling and Jo Palmer from Staffordshire University Academy, front, with students and representatives from Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles

HEDNESFORD residents are being urged to have their say on a future arts project.

Staffordshire University Academy students have begun work on the Bridging Communities Project. Organisers are asking for views on what form it should take – based on a love for the town, past present and future.

The initiative is being managed by Hednesford in Partnership, which was awarded £10,000 by the Staffordshire Community Arts Fund in April.

The aim of the finished artwork is to help shape the town's identity.

Stage one is to put together an artist's brief, which is the task of the Staffordshire University Academy students. They spent a morning carrying out a site visit to the bridge on Market Street to assess the panels and the general area.

In addition, representatives from various groups in Hednesford later attended The Aquarius Ballroom to answer questions from students about Hednesford's past, present and future.

Colour

The aim of the art project is to reduce anti-social behaviour, bring different age groups together and attract more visitors, bringing new colour to the railway bridge in Market Street.

Local businesses and artists are invited to join in over the next two years. It is also supported by award-winning wellbeing and fitness social enterprise, Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, who have been involved in a number of successful art funds across Staffordshire. They have pledged a further £2,000 towards a local artist creating a final visual impression.

Project consultant Steve Cooling said: "This project is a great way to get all the community together to talk about Hednesford. Involving young people in creating the town's identity helps to future-proof it."

Hednesford in Partnership chairman Carol Fittes said: "I'm really proud that HiP has been awarded this money and that the project is already getting different age groups working together."

For more about Hednesford in Partnership, or the art project call 01543 468621 or email carol@hednesfordinpartnership.co.uk

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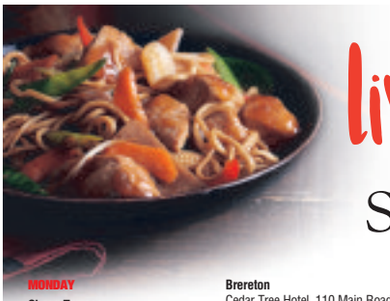

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Ring Lesley Anne:
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Ring Rachel: 07807 785600

Cannock
The Langford
Community Centre
Longford Medical Practice, Longford
Road, Cannock
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Ring Gill: 07958 000554

TUESDAY

Cannock
Avon Business & Leisure Centre,
Jack Holsten Suite,
Avon Road, Cannock
(next to Asda)
9am & 11am
Morning Group
Ring Rose: 07837088159

Brereton
Cedar Tree Hotel, 110 Main Road,
Brereton, Rugeley
9.30am & 11.30am
Ring Emma: 07969 865624

Great Wyrley
Senior Citizens Centre,
Broadmeadow Lane,
Great Wyrley
9.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Kierston: 07824665600

Huntington
Littleton Green Community School,
Stafford Road, Huntington
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Rose: 07837 088159

Brereton
Cedar Tree Hotel,
110 Main Road,
Brereton, Rugeley
3.30pm & 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Emma: 07969 865624

Penkridge
Peace Memorial Hall,
Pinfold Lane, Penkridge
7.30pm
Ring Claire: 07540 230320

Hednesford
St Josephs Primary School
Hilltop, Hednesford
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Lindsey: 07989 962061

WEDNESDAY

Bridgtown
Bethel Methodist Church
Union Street, Bridgtown, Cannock
5.30pm
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

Hednesford
Pye Green Community Centre
Bradbury Lane, Pye Green
9.00am & 11.00am
Morning Groups
Ring Rose: 07837 088159

Heath Hayes
Welcome Club,
Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Kerrie: 07708 477557

Chadsmoor
Bethany Baptist Church,
Cannock Road, Chadsmoor
7.30pm
Ring Lesley-Anne:
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THURSDAY

Cannock
Avon Business & Leisure Centre
The Chase Suite Avon Road,
Cannock (next to Asda)
6.30pm
Ring Jan: 07939 001558

Cheslyn Hay
Cheslyn Hay Community
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Cheslyn Hay
9.30am *Morning Group*
also at 5.30pm & 7.30pm
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Hednesford
Aquarius Ballroom,
Victoria Street,
Hednesford, Cannock
3.30 & 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

Rugeley
Mansfield House (next to Aldi),
Market Street, Rugeley
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Morning Groups
Ring Rachel: 07807 785600

Chasetown
Chasetown Methodist Church,
Lawnswood Avenue,
Chasetown
9.30am & 7.30pm
Ring Rachel: 07889 882086

FRIDAY

Hednesford
Aquarius Ballroom
Victoria Street, Hednesford
9.30am *Morning Group*
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

SATURDAY

Pye Green
Pye Green Community Centre
Bradbury Lane, Pye Green
11.30am *Morning Group*
Ring Fina: 07530 165049

Rugeley
Mansfield House,
Market Street, Rugeley
10am *Morning Group*
Ring Nathalie: 07939 517909

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Artist's nod to rise and fall of motor industry

Artist Keith Harrison's vision for contemporary art in a woodland setting – how his Joyride sculpture would look

AN artist has been awarded a major £30,000 commission which will be unveiled on Cannock Chase.

West Bromwich-born Keith Harrison was awarded the commission through the 2016 edition of Jerwood Open Forest, established by Forestry Commission England and Jerwood Charitable Foundation, with support from Arts Council England.

Mr Harrison's project Joyride will be realised next autumn, where he will ceremonially release a clay replica of a Rover 75 down a specially constructed roller-coaster style ramp, providing a pertinent commentary on the rise and fall of car manufacturing in the area.

It has been inspired by the artist's own upbringing in the heavily post-industrialised Black Country.

"The opportunity to realise a project which links the former Rover factory at Longbridge, Birmingham where my mother and grandfather worked and Cannock Chase, a wilderness we visited regularly as a family whilst growing up is immense," he said.

The winning commission was selected by a panel of leading practitioners and project partners.

Artist Keith Harrison

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Warm welcome as expanded salon meets growing demand

The RAMhair team, left, Chelsea Hall, Anna-Lee Colley, owner Robbie McGarva, Tom Evans, Chloe Brown and Amy Hale

RAMhair now occupies the premises next door after expanding to meet demand as Cannock's premium salon.

We have created a warm relaxing on-trend 14-section salon through bespoke interior design to reflect the RAMhair philosophy.

The RAMhair dream team is now a strong line-up of six and continuing to grow, covering all areas of hair.

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Commercial feature

The background salon first opened its doors at Christmas 2013 and has gone from strength to strength, having grown rapidly.

Robbie believes the reason behind the success is our unique approach to hairdressing with the emphasis on creativity and offering change combined with our customer service.

RAMhair's journey has only just begun, and the salon expansion has created a solid platform to roll out the future plans. 2017 marks a new year for RAMhair's training academy, developing a pool of young talent to grow future salon plans.

Salon director Robbie flies to Shanghai next summer to create his own perfect product range . . . watch this space.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has passed through the salon door over the three years of success we've shared together.

We welcome everybody to sample the RAMhair experience this Christmas.

To celebrate the launch this week we are giving complimentary Wella goody bags with any service.

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Donations are made to good causes

Rotary Club of Cannock

THE Rotary Club of Cannock has made a number of significant donations from funds raised throughout the year. These donations have been made to help support local and international charities and good causes.

Funds raised from marshalling the 2015 Staffordshire Ironman event enabled a cheque for £500 to be presented to Sherbrook School towards equipment for its new soft play room.

The Rotary Club of Cannock also made two other substantial donations in November. The first was a donation of more than £1,000 to help the people on the Caribbean island of Haiti following the effects of Hurricane Matthew earlier this year.

The second was to purchase two Shelter boxes at a cost of £590 each to help with emergency aid for refugees from Mosul in war-torn Iraq.

The Rotary Club believes it is essential to ensure that funds donated by the club are used to help people directly affected by conflict or natural disasters.

Earlier this year the club made donations from funds raised at its annual golf day to the Brain Tumour Charity and local hospices.

The club has also made donations to a number of local schools and is planning to host a Christmas Lunch in early December for the elderly and needy in the Cannock area.

Further information on Cannock Rotary is available on www.cannockrotary.co.uk or on Facebook.

No strings attached with Derek's talk

Cannock & District Ladies Probus

Guest speaker Derek Wharton with one of his puppets

DEREK from Smethwick was the November meeting's speaker. Derek Wharton is a puppeteer who has collected puppets from an early age.

His big break was with 'auntie' Jean Morton with whom he worked at ATV television studios on the Tingha and Tucker Club. He later moved to work on cruise liners.

Throughout his career, Derek has collected puppets from his travels around the world; and some of these were introduced with their own character; making for an entertaining talk.

Members learned about rod puppets, shadow puppets, marionettes and glove puppets. Then Derek finished with a ventriloquist puppet that was 'ventri-local' as he spoke in a Dudley accent. The vote of thanks was given by Sheila Reader.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at The Chase Golf Club. For further information on joining contact the membership secretary on 01543 505107 and/or www.probusonline.org

Festive music to aid charity

Rugeley Committee for Macmillan

DURING the last year the Rugeley Committee for Macmillan have been able to raise, with the help of many local friends and organisations, £5,003.78p for charity.

There have been many coffee mornings to raise funds and the committee has received £1,050 from the Chadsmoor Line Dancers, £500 from Rugeley Gymophobics and a further £570.90 from the Etching Hill coffee morning.

The next event is a concert of Christmas music tomorrow night (Friday) from 7.30pm at Mansfield House, with entertainment from Lea Hall Brass Band (formerly the Power Station Brass Band). Tickets are £5 each, from committee members or at the door. A quiz will be held on December 29, from 7.30pm, at the Lamb & Flag, Great Haywood.

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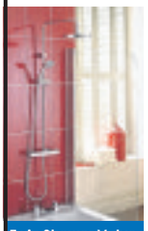

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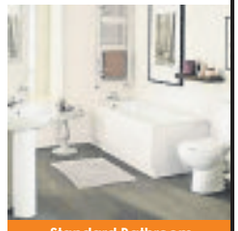

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Beauty clinic gets my vote says X Factor star Jaymi

Jaymi Hensley arrives at Soul Care Aesthetics in Cannock

With owner Rachel Morgan in front of the Christmas tree

Cannock's Soul Care Aesthetics beauty and holistic clinic was given the star treatment with a visit by Union J's Jaymi Hensley.

Jaymi had heard of the amazing treatments that owners Rachel and Ian Morgan have provided for many other celebrities – so he went to the centre at Chase House, in High Green Court, Newhall Street, to see for himself.

Jaymi said: "What an amazing place, the staff are so lovely, it's been such a

Commercial feature

relaxing day of pampering – including Beyoncé's much-loved HydraFacial – before I start panto next week playing Peter Pan in Hastings."

Lovely

The 26-year-old celebrity was so impressed with the centre that he offered to switch on their Christmas tree lights for them. Rachel Morgan said: "What a lovely man Jaymi is. We're all massive fans of Union J so to have him visit was an absolute honour, never mind have him switch our Christmas lights on for us."

Union J were formed on X Factor in 2012 and finished fourth in the competition.

Their debut single 'Carry You' was released in June 2013 and their self-titled album was released in October 2013, reaching number six in the UK.

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Every penny counts

A PUB that donated 1p of every main meal to charity has raised £350 in six months.

The Stag's Leap in Rugeley, has handed the money to the Midland Freewheelers, which provides a free emergency out of hours blood and medical essentials delivery service.

The Freewheelers are part of the national Blood Bikes charity and rider Steve Hawkes said: "We are delighted to receive this donation."

Sarah Fellows of the Stag's Leap, said: "It has been really humbling to see where the money raised will go."

Ambulances called over 1,000 times to prisons

WEST Midlands Ambulance has been called out more than 1,000 times to prisons across the region in just 10 months, figures reveal.

The ambulance service, which covers all of the West Midlands and Staffordshire, was called out 1,179 times between January and October this year. The call-outs were for a variety of reasons including assaults, strokes and overdoses.

By Jack Averty

HMP Oakwood, in the South Staffordshire village of Featherstone, had the most call-outs with 257. This figure included 40 call-outs in September and 30 last month alone.

Oakwood's neighbours HMP Featherstone had 176 call-outs during the same period while Brinsford, the young offenders institute on the same site, had 21.

In May when WMAS attended 30 times.

Frequent

Aside from Oakwood, the prison with the most frequent call-outs was HMP Hewell, in Redditch, with 190. There were 161 to Winson Green in Birmingham.

HMP Stafford, which houses the notorious paedophile Rolf Harris, had 113 calls, while HMP Dovegate, in Uttoxeter, had 122.

Other call-outs include 43 to Long Lartin, 35 to Stoke Heath, 35 to Swinfen Hall near Lichfield and 26 to Drake Hall – the women's prison near Eccleshall.

A Prison Service spokesman said: "We will never compromise on the safety of those in our care, and staff are trained to respond to emergency situations in a timely, appropriate manner.

"Ambulance call-outs are made by healthcare professionals when they identify risks. However, a significant number are for non-violent incidents, including where they attended as a precaution and when the situation was resolved by prison staff."

When taking into account prison population, figures show that Oakwood, the worst in terms of base call-outs, is actually in line with the region's average for category C prisons.

With a population of around 2,000, the 257 call-outs equate to 13 per cent of prisoners, while the figures for Featherstone, 176 call-outs from a population of 677, equate to 26 per cent.

A spokesman for G4S, which runs HMP Oakwood, said: "This data is meaningless unless you account for the size of the prison population at each facility. On that basis Oakwood is exactly in line with the average for category C prisons in the Midlands."

The figures, obtained through a freedom of information request, also show that of the 1,179 call outs, 669 were for chest pain, including 189 at Oakwood. There were 220 call-outs for traumatic injuries, 52 of them at Oakwood.

Other reasons for call-outs include abdominal pain, allergies, back pain, breathing problems, burns, cardiac arrest, convulsions, headache, heart problems and 14 suicide attempts.

West Midlands Ambulance declined to comment.

Hospital staff use pedal power to help patients

CARING hospital staff pedalled the equivalent of almost 400 miles to help renovate a garden for elderly patients and people recovering from strokes.

The team from various departments of Cannock Chase Hospital, led by senior sister Clare Banks, took turns on a stationary bike to 'ride' from the Brunswick Road site to Candle Street, London, and back. They covered a total of 373 miles.

The challenge took place during a week of celebration to mark the 20th anniversary of The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Charity.

Thanks to their efforts the team raised nearly £350 to revitalise the green space around the hospital's Fairoak ward.

The ward specialises in rehabilitation, with the garden allowing patients and their relatives to benefit from being outside in natural light and the fresh air.

Support

Mrs Banks said: "Thank you to colleagues from every department for their support and especially the team on Fairoak who took part and ensured that patients were well cared for."

"I would also like to thank Manx Baker who spent the whole day cycling and selling cakes to raise money."

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Charity cash cooked up

STUDENTS in Penkridge helped to raise more than £700 for the annual Children In Need extravaganza.

Wolgarston High School pupils organised a Fairtrade cake and cookie stall, while the Cannock Road school's canteen sold Pudsey biscuits.

Further activities included a guess the weight of the Pudsey cake competition, Keira Hope of Year 11 with the closest estimate.

Wristbands were sold to boost the funds and a total of £712.77 was raised.

Homeless hotspots: Appeal to end crisis

MORE than 950 people are homeless in the Black Country and Staffordshire, according to national charity Shelter.

Wolverhampton and Walsall have been both named in the organisation's West Midlands' top 20 'homelessness hotspots'. In Walsall there are 569 people without a home, one in 487, and in Wolverhampton there are estimated 250 homeless, one in 1,041.

By Heather Large

Councillor Mike Bird, leader of the Conservative group in Walsall, said he was surprised."I knew there was a figure but I wasn't aware that it was so high. I think it demonstrates the situation we are in with poor quality housing."

Elsewhere there are an estimated 76 homeless people in Sandwell, 42 in Stafford, 11 in Dudley and four in Cannock. The total for the West Midlands is 16,100, which also includes 9,560 people without a home in Birmingham.

Inspired

The figures have been compiled by analysing the up-to-date government statistics, freedom of information requests, and other-homelessness data.

To mark the charity's founding 50 years ago, the research is inspired by it's original Green Book , the report that launched the charity in 1966 and exposed the grim reality of life for homeless families at the time.

Vicky Hines, Shelter's Birmingham Hub manager, said: "Shelter's founding shone a light on hidden homelessness in the 1960s slums.

But while those troubled times have faded into memory, 50 years on a modern day housing crisis is tightening its grip on our country.

"Thousands of people in the West Midlands will face the trauma of waking up homeless this Christmas. Decades in the making, this is the tragic result of a nation struggling under the weight of sky-high rents, a lack of affordable homes, and cuts to welfare support.

"We all face the consequences when so many grow up without a place to call home. It breaks up communities and wreaks havoc on family life. For the sake of future generations we must pull together to end this crisis."

Single mother Nita Guru, aged 38, is one of many who have been helped by Shelter. Three years ago, she was at risk of losing her home in Smethwick because she was struggling to pay her mortgage. She contacted the charity and was able to get counselling and help to work towards qualifications to train as a nurse.

Shelter's co-founder Des Wilson said: "It would be pleasing if Shelter were able to take time to celebrate its 50th year, but, as this report shows, it is too aware of what still has to be done. I hope the country will respond with the same combination of anger and compassion with which it supported our work all those years ago."

Youngsters enjoy fire safety tips and museum trip

YOUNGSTERS in Cannock have been told of the dangers of nuisance fires.

Redhill Primary School pupils have been working with PCSO Laura Mancicius on a number of citizenship schemes.

The Year Five and Six pupils were also visited by retained firefighter Dave Small, who presented 'Flames Aren't Games.'

He taught the children how quickly a fire can spread and the dangers that can be caused by nuisance fires that people light for 'fun'.

He explained the role of a firefighter and some of the situations he has dealt with.

Children have also enjoyed a trip to the Natural History Museum to complement their work on evolution and Out Of Africa.

Attractions included a prehistoric exhibition including a life-size dinosaur. The children handled artefacts like fossils and learned about earthquakes, creepy crawlies and mammals and about the evolution of humans and animals and DNA.

A busy month included a glow in the dark dodgeball tournament between the Wrights Avenue school and neighbouring Moorhill, while a raffle organised by the pupils for Children In Need raised £257.

Gamble pays off on festive market

Penkridge History Group's Diane Craddock, Claire Geoghegan and Bevan Craddock at the popular market

THE organisers of a popular Victorian Christmas market say a gamble to change its format paid off. Penkridge market manager Matt Williams said this year's event was the busiest ever.

Previously held on a Friday evening at the market site, it was this year staged on a Sunday afternoon to make it more family-orientated. Attractions included stalls, food and crafts and entertainment in the form of choirs, Morris dancers, stilt walkers, a funfair and Father Christmas.

Mr Williams said: "We took a huge risk in changing the format of what is our busiest event of the year, but it certainly paid off. The market was extremely busy from the moment we opened. We were delighted to see so many families there, as this was the whole reason for changing the time of the event."

He added: "The Victorian Christmas Market is one of those events that just seems to go from strength to strength each year and we hope to build on this success next year."

Ian's aiming to clean up

Ian Thomas

THE new owner of a domestic cleaning franchise is taking on extra staff and hopes to attract more customers from across the Chase.

The Stafford branch of Merry Maids has been acquired by experienced cleaning professional Ian Thomas following the retirement of its previous owners. He plans to focus on the growth of the business.

Merry Maids Stafford currently services 205 homes within a 15-20 mile radius of the county town and an immediate strategy is focused on increasing customer numbers in the Cannock, Rugeley and Hednesford areas. Two new employees have been recruited ahead of the planned expansion with further job creation planned in the coming months.

Mr Thomas said: "When I saw that the opportunity to acquire my local Merry Maids branch had arisen I knew I had to take it.

"There are lots of opportunities in the local area for growth and I am focused on expansion during the next few months, aiming to increase annual turnover by 16 per cent by the end of our first year."

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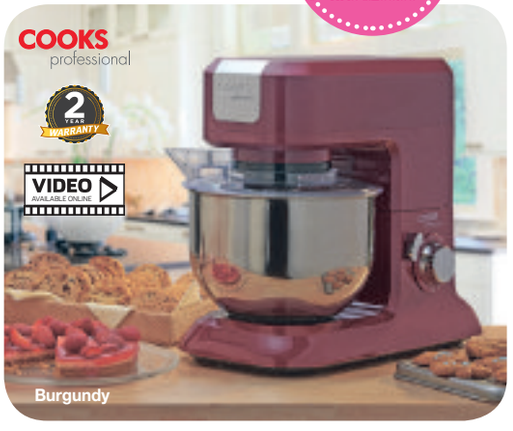

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Heroic veteran, 96, receives D-Day medal

A 96-YEAR-OLD Cannock war veteran has been presented with a Legion d'honneur medal, for his efforts in the D-Day landings.

Frederick Donald Hall, who was a member of the Royal Artillery Regiment, took part in D-Day operations on June 6, 1944, storming Juno Beach with Canadian forces.

He came out unhurt but was wounded five days later when a grenade was thrown into the back of Land Rover in which he was travelling.

Mr Hall suffered shrapnel wounds and was also shot in leg. He was repatriated back to a hospital ship in the English Channel. Before D-Day, at the start of the war, he had been part of the forces delaying the German advance on the Dunkirk evacuation.

At 19, Mr Hall's efforts helped to buy time for besieged forces in Dunkirk, and he saw action laying traps from Belgium back to Dunkirk

Amanda Milling presents Frederick Donald Hall with his medal

and engaging German forces in order to slow their advance – efforts that saw him awarded the Belgium Medal.

His unit was one of the last to be taken off the beach at Dunkirk, and he was evacuated on a Thames Estuary pleasure cruiser. Mr Hall was presented with his Légion d'honneur medal by Amanda Milling, MP Cannock Chase.

"It was my absolute honour to present the medal to Frederick," she said.

"Frederick's stories are amazing, and I can only imagine the challenges and pressure he faced in Belgium and again on D-Day. He is a real hero and deserves our thanks and admiration."

Liberation

The French Government is presenting Allied forces who took part in D-Day the Legion d'honneur medal as a way of thanking those who liberated them during the Second World War.

Sylvie Bermann, the French Ambassador in London, wrote to Mr Hall saying: "As we contemplate this Europe of peace, we must never forget the heroes like you, who came from Britain and the Commonwealth, to begin the liberation of Europe by liberating France.

"We owe our freedom and security to your dedication because you were ready to risk your life."

Boating lake is now covered with grass

The boating lake at Chasewater has now been filled in and grass is being laid on top

THE project to drain and fill in Chasewater's boating pool is nearly complete.

Staffordshire County Council revealed the plans at the start of the year as it was becoming too expensive to continuously clean the bird droppings out of the pool.

Ducks and geese ended up settling at the pool next to the Innovation Centre after visitors were stopped from feeding them near the edge of the reservoir. But as a result, the bird mess built up in the pool, raising fears that it was damaging protected plant life in the connecting reservoir, and so it was drained.

Council bosses decided that the pool, which once featured an island, would stay drained and filled in.

Staffordshire County Council, which owns the country park, took over the management of the country park in 2014. The pool was once a popular attraction for boaters and residents. It is now being covered with grass.

Chasewater Reservoir is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest because it has some nationally important features, including its aquatic plants, which bosses felt were crucial to preserve.

Lichfield District Council granted permission for the pool to be filled in, grassed and landscaped before work could be carried out.

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Chief Whip reveals his creepy secret weapon

HE is the latest Whitehall pet to create a stir in the Westminster bubble and his owner, the Government Chief Whip Gavin Williamson, has revealed he hails from South Staffordshire.

Cronus, the Mexican red leg tarantula, made international headlines when it was revealed that Mr Williamson keeps the sinister creature at his offices in the House of Commons and 9 Downing Street where he strikes fear into potential rebel Tory MPs.

While Number 10, the Treasury, and the Foreign Office have cats, it is a first for a Cabinet member to have an ally of the eight-legged variety.

And it can be revealed that the arachnid started life at Hollybush Garden Centre in Shareshill before being raised by the South Staffordshire MP.

Sickle

Mr Williamson said: "I don't think people appreciate what a tough job it is being Chief Whip. You have to look at different ways to persuade people to vote with the government and Cronus is a valued member of the Whips' office."

Cronus is named after the Greek god who castrated his father with a sickle and ate his children.

"While Cronus is a Mexican red leg tarantula I can reveal that he was raised at Hollybush Garden Centre in Shareshill and I'm glad I could make another addition from my constituency to the team.

"It is also pleasing that the world's most famous spider comes from South Staffordshire," Mr Williamson added.

"He sits on my desk in the House of Commons and will crawl around while I am replying to my constituency papers."

The one-year-old creepy crawlie also lives at No 9 Downing Street at the Cabinet Office when Mr Williamson is working from his desk there.

He also spends parliamentary recess back at Mr Williamson's constituency home. Cronus is a perfect example of an incredibly clean, ruthless killer – absolutely fascinating to rear," added Mr Williamson, the Prime Minister's enforcer.

MP Gavin Williamson keeps a Mexican red leg tarantula – like this one – called Cronus, and is proud of its South Staffordshire origins

But the hairy sidekick may not be allowed to stay in the Commons for long.

A spokesman said only guide dogs and sniffer dogs were allowed in Parliament – anyone bringing in another animal is 'gently reminded of this policy and asked not to do it again'.

The office of the Serjeant at Arms – which is responsible for maintaining order on the Parliamentary estate – would get in touch with anyone breaching the rules, the spokesman said.

But it is understood that Cronus has no intention of leaving the seat of power any time soon.

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson

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‘Never give up’ is message to pupils

Ben Rowlings, aged 21, who grew up with cerebral palsy, is Britain’s Number One T34 Wheelchair Racer

A PARALYMPIC athlete has inspired Penkridge pupils to never give up, no matter what. Youngsters at Penkridge Middle School enjoyed an assembly with Ben Rowlings, from Newport, Shropshire. The 21-year-old, who grew up with cerebral palsy, visited the school as part of the children’s focus on disability awareness.

Rowlings is Britain’s Number One T34 Wheelchair Racer and has competed in European Championships, World Championships and the Paralympic Games in Rio 2016. He took up his sport only five years ago but has quickly risen to success using his custom-built racing chair ‘Mac’.

A school spokesman said Rowlings’s talk was inspirational, motivational and insightful and gave the pupils an opportunity to ask any questions. His key message of the day was to never give up, no matter what barriers you face.

Claire Swift, the Marsh Lane school’s special educational needs and disability lead, said “It was a complete pleasure to welcome Ben into school to learn about his story and his positive attitude towards life and his disability

”Disability affects many of us and learning about it in such an inspirational way made the children interested and left them wanting to know more.”

Update is launched for police alert app

RESIDENTS and businesses will be given live updates as crimes are happening in their area as a police app downloaded by thousands launches a new update.

The Staffordshire Smart Alert app was launched in March and has already been downloaded more than 4,500 times, with a further 2,500 people signing up for email alerts.

By Jordan Harris

The latest update allows residents and businesses to instantly interact with officers, who will be able to send out instant alerts to subscribers when a crime has just taken place, or is taking place, in their area.

Alerts can be sent out to a radius ranging from 3km down to a single street in an area, for example, where a child has gone missing or a home has been broken into.

Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis said: “Crime is becoming more complex and often takes place online but we must not forget that it is still happening where we live and work.

“This update on Staffordshire Smart Alert is your opportunity to help Staffordshire Police turn the tables on crime by responding to real-time alerts if you see something that may help them with their investigation. This new technology will make it easier for people of all ages to work with Staffordshire Police to help put criminals behind bars and is an important step forward to encourage local people to watch out for each other and get involved in making their community safer.”

The free service, which is for people aged 12 or over, allows members of the public to personalise their alerts to find out more about rural, horse, canal, school and cycle crime. Each alert will include an incident number and contact details so members of the public can contact Staffordshire Police.

Businesses can also receive Smart Alerts relevant to their industry sector.

Assistant Chief Constable Nick Adderley said: “This is a fantastic development.”

Express & Star READER OFFER

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A 255 Squadron night fighter in flight

Christopher Deansley and Jack Scott

No 264 Squadron Defiants just before Dunkirk

Air fighter Defiant right until the end

Lewis and his mother Sandra with an Airfix kit

Defiants on the production line at Boulton Paul Aircraft

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

WOLVERHAMPTON'S highest profile contribution to World War Two was the Boulton Paul Defiant fighter.

Two squadrons of Defiants fought in the Battle of Britain, and seven squadrons fought as night fighters during the Blitz. Later the aircraft served in air-sea rescue squadrons, as an electronic countermeasures aircraft and finally as a target tug.

The Defiant had a revolutionary concept as all the guns were in the power-operated gun turret. When the prototype first flew in 1937 the turret was not yet ready, so it flew for a while as a single seater.

As production aircraft were delivered to the RAF it fell to No 264 Squadron to introduce it into service, and to work out new tactics for the new concept. The squadron fought over Holland and Dunkirk, where it set a record by claiming 37 German aircraft shot down for no loss to itself.

In the Battle of Britain it was joined by No 141 Squadron, but as the summer of 1940 turned to winter, and the Blitz began the Defiants, including five more squadrons, were switched to night fighting, and were the most successful aircraft until radar-equipped fighters came along.

As it was replaced as a front-line aircraft, the Defiant was still found vital roles, serving in Air-Sea Rescue squadrons, searching for downed aviators in the North Sea and Channel, and dropping life-rafts. One squadron, No 515, became the world's first electronic countermeasures unit, jamming German radar and communications, and still the Defiant was not finished.

Large numbers were converted to the vital target-tug role, both for the RAF and the Fleet Air Arm, and even the United States Air Force.

The sole surviving original Defiant has been in the RAF Museum at Hendon for nearly 50 years, but will soon be moved to the RAF Museum at Cosford, coming home.

The Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre, which has its own Defiant cockpit on display, has stocked up with Defiant model kits, in time for Christmas. The centre, a volunteer-run charity, is open every Sunday, with many of its aircraft cockpits free to enter.

Top scoring crew Sergeants, Thorn and Barker

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In costume

Panto stars ready to go – Page 27

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Matt Goss

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Before joining his brother in a reunited Bros next year, Matt brings a festive version of his Rat Pack-inspired swing show honed over seven years.
See **academymusicgroup.com/o2academybirmingham**

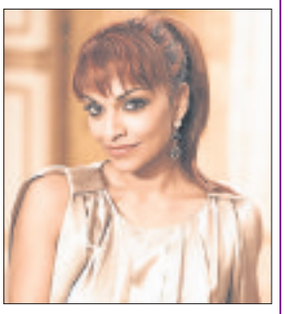
Ken Dodd

Saturday, 6.30pm
Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
The 89-year-old Liverpudlian comedian is celebrating more than 60 years in showbiz and promises a tattifelarius Christmas Happiness Show...just don't expect to get home early.
See **wolvescivic.co.uk**

Jools Holland and his R&B Orchestra

Wednesday & Thursday, 7.30pm
Symphony Hall, Birmingham
Boogie into Christmas with piano man Jools and his band, featuring Brum's own soul and reggae queen Ruby Turner, plus guest Pauline Black.
See **www.thsh.co.uk**

Danielle de Niese



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Birmingham, B12 0NH.
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Mon, £15 - £21.50
Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.
Call 01684 892277

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Tue, £17.50 - £18.50
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Call 01902 401211

Sing Political!
Wed,
The Prince of Wales Moseley,
Birmingham, B13 8EE.
Call 0121 4494198

Seth Lakeman
Thu,
Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.
Call 01684 892277

COMEDY

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Call 0121 246 2273

Paul Foot: 'Tis a Pity She's a Piglet
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Faulty Towers The Dining Experience
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Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP.
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Tonight - Tue, £19
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Aladdin
Tonight - Thu,
Hall Green Little Theatre,
Birmingham, B27 7RY.
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Chicago The Musical
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Birmingham, B5 4DS.
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A Christmas Wassail @ Highbury Hall 2016
Tue,
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Brindleyplace, Birmingham,
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Beyond the Barricade
Thu,
Victoria Hall, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3AD.
Call 0844 871 7649

A Christmas Carol
Tonight - Thu,
The Crescent Theatre,
Brindleyplace, Birmingham,
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Apple Tree Art LIVE
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The Arcadian Center,
Birmingham, B5 4TD.
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The Roaring 20s Party
Tonight - Sun,
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See **http://jewellerysilversmithingclasses.bigcartel.com/product/silver-stacking-rings**

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RCTA Christmas Floating Market
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Brindleyplace, Birmingham,
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Tomorrow,
Erasmus Darwin House, Lichfield,
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Woodland Elves
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Clent Hills, B62 0NL.
Call 01562 712 822

Christmas Reindeer Reeder
Tomorrow,
Creative Coffee Hub,
Birmingham, B29 6HJ.
Call 01215 727300

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Tomorrow,
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See **http://lineupnow.com/event/christmas-market-at-the-green**

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It's Grand panto time, oh yes it is!

The cast of Aladdin will be entertaining thousands of panto fans during their winter residency at the Grand Theatre

IT'S panto time at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre with Aladdin set to be the venue's biggest pantomime to date.

Running from Saturday, December 10, to Sunday, January 22, the festive family show has pop and stage star Joe McElderry as Aladdin and one of TV's Loose Women, Lisa Riley, as Slave Of The Ring.

Also in the cast is children's favourite Ben Faulks – CBeebies' Mr Bloom – who will play the Policeman. Britain's Got Talent soprano Lucy Kay is Princess Jasmine, whilst internet sensation and Black Country comedienne Doreen appears as the Lazy Empress Of China.

The glittering production features Ian Adams as Widow Twankey, Adam C Booth as Wishee Washee and Neal Wright as the Genie Of The Lamp.

Aladdin reunites Joe with Lucy after they received acclaim for their performances as Joseph and the Narrator in Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat on tour.

The 2009 X Factor winner Joe will be marking his fourth year performing in pantomime. The 25-year-old singer said: "I've heard Aladdin's one of the best pantos. There's lots going on. I like the variety.

"I was obsessed with panto from about the age of four. I went every year with my family in South Shields and I desperately wanted to be part of it one day – the costumes, the dance routines, people throwing pies at each other.

"I can honestly say it's my favourite time of the year. I have a blast."

He added: "This year there's a huge cast to have fun with, including Lisa Riley and Ben Faulks – and Doreen's great!"

Tickets can be booked in person at the Lichfield Street theatre, by telephone on 01902 42 92 12 or online at the grandtheatre.co.uk website.

Paris goes to Chicago

"MURDER, greed, corruption, exploitation, adultery and treachery - all those things we hold near and dear to our hearts"... so begins the Broadway and West End hit musical, Chicago, which is providing the alternative to panto in Birmingham this festive season.

The UK tour comes back to the Midlands for an extended stay from Monday to New Year's Eve at the New Alexandra Theatre.

This latest production of Kander and Ebb's razzle dazzle jazz age musical, set in the roaring 1920s with dangerous dames and shyster lawyers, stars EastEnders actor John Partridge as slick brief Billy Flynn. Dancing on Ice winner, Emmerdale and Coronation Street star Hayley Tamaddon plays raunchy Roxie Hart and soul singer Mica Paris is cell block matriarch 'Mama' Morton.

Mica has a top ten hit in 1988 with My One Temptation and went on to work with artists such as Alexander O'Neal, James Morrison and Jools Holland, before embarking on a musical theatre career. She is taking over in the role from Sam Bailey, who played 'Mama' Morton when Chicago was staged at Wolverhampton Grand earlier this year, and most recently from EastEnders actress Jessie Wallace.

For tickets see www.atgtickets.com/venues/new-alexandra-theatre-birmingham or call 0844 871 3011.

Blonde on Blonde revisited in Bilston

GET ready for some classic folk-rock as the festive season hits top gear.

Steve Gibbons, Dave Pegg and several other luminaries of the Midlands music scene bring The Dylan Project to the Robin 2 in Bilston on Tuesday with a special gig featuring every song from the Nobel Prize winner's Blonde on Blonde album. Then on Thursday, December 15, the same venue hosts a Christmas special from folk-rock legends Lindisfarne. Both shows are seated.

Meanwhile, Midlands melodic rock masters Magnum give their fans an early Christmas treat at the Wulfrun Hall on Saturday.

Red Hot rock to melt your baubles

NOT everything is jingle bells, there is a rock alternative.

Funky rockers Red Hot Chili Peppers turn up the heat at the NEC's Genting Arena on Saturday and Sunday nights. Korn and Limp Bizkit are a formidable double bill at the Barclaycard Arena on December 15.

Twenty years on from their acclaimed debut Fuzzy Logic, Welsh mavericks Super Furry Animals are still producing great outsider pop-rock and are at the O2 Institute in Digbeth on Saturday. The same venue hosts US hard rockers Beartooth on Sunday and the return of psychedelic Britpoppers Kula Shaker on Monday.

Beatles, Stones and Beach Boys

SEVERAL top tribute bands are bringing their sound-alike shows to the region.

The Doors Alive will aim to light your fire at Birmingham's O2 Academy tomorrow (Friday), the same night that The Bootleg Beatles play Wolverhampton Civic Hall.

On Saturday Ultimate Eagles mark 40 years of Hotel California at Bilston's Robin 2, whilst the O2 Academy hosts Absolute Bowie.

Ten-piece Beach Boys tribute Surf's Up are at Bridgnorth's Theatre on the Steps on Saturday and the Shropshire venue hosts The Stones on Thursday, December 15.

CHOICE

Dermot O'Leary

The X Factor (ITV, 8pm)
Weeks of lively auditions, gruelling boot camps and nerve-jangling live shows come to a head, in the first instalment of the annual talent show's grand final. The three remaining would-be pop-stars face yet another showdown, as judges Simon Cowell, Louis Walsh, Nicole Scherzinger and Sharon Osbourne deliver their verdict on each act's performance one final time. Taking to the stage alongside a surprise guest performer, the acts sing two songs each in front of an audience of thousands at Wembley Arena. The act with the lowest public-vote figures faces the gut-churning prospect of bowing out in third place, while the remaining two go on to battle it out in the second stage of the final.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin – Home Comforts at Christmas. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Regional Programme. **2.00** Christmas Supermarket Secrets. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Continent. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** Celebrity Mastermind. (R) **5.40** BBC News. **5.50** Regional Programme.

6.00 Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.50 Strictly Come Dancing. Tensions reach their highest point yet as the four remaining pro-celebrity duos enter the semi-finals of the annual dancing competition. With three places in the grand final up for grabs, the two performers who emerge from today's contest with the highest scores will instantly progress to the next round, while the bottom two face the prospect of a nerve-racking dance-off. While there has been no shortage of drama throughout this year's contest, including Will Young's shock withdrawal early on in the competition, and Peter Kay's divisive guest appearance during the live Blackpool show, all this will pale into insignificance as the remaining stars take to the stage in an effort to claim a place in the grand final.

8.10 Michael McIntyre's Big Show. Rick Astley, Al Porter and Olly Murs perform on stage at London's Theatre Royal, and Olympic swimmer Rebecca Adlington hands her phone to the host for Send To All.

9.10 Casualty. A riot at a department store on Christmas Eve results in a trip to the ED for miserly boss Larry. Meanwhile, Duffy's estranged husband Ryan tries to repair his fractured marriage.

10.00 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin presents as the all-important winning Lotto and Thunderball numbers are revealed, with comedian Miles Jupp doing the honours and pushing the buttons.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents; National Lottery Update.

11.50 The NFL Show. Mark Chapman looks at the major stories shaping the NFL world.

12.20 Film: Hard Rain. (1998) **1.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.25 Film: The Big Sky. (1952) **8.25 Film:** Build My Gallows High. (1947) **10.00** Secret Britain. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **1.00** Best Bakes Ever. **1.30 Film:** Lust for Life. (1956) Biopic of Van Gogh, starring Kirk Douglas. **3.30** Flog It! (R) **4.10** Natural World. (R) **5.00 Film:** Nativity! (2009) Comedy, starring Martin Freeman.

6.40 Operation Snow Tiger. Part one of two. The Siberian tiger is one of Earth's rarest and most elusive animals, with as few as 300 remaining. Liz Bonnin travels to the frozen forests of the far east of Russia to help a team of scientists whose goal is to uncover the hidden world of this mysterious predator, determine why their numbers are declining and see if anything can be done to improve their fortunes. (R)

7.40 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands. The Inner Hebrides islands of Gigha and Jura which, despite their close proximity, could not be more different – one being lush and verdant, the other rugged and awe-inspiring.

8.10 Dad's Army. Lance Corporal Jones takes the plunge and decides to make an honest woman of Mrs Fox. Last-ever episode of the comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)

8.45 Walt Disney – Part One. Part one of two. Documentary exploring the life and legacy of Walt Disney, beginning with his early animated work, and the success of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

9.45 Rauschenberg – American Art Pioneer. Alastair Sooke visits the east coast of the US to profile Robert Rauschenberg, the influential American artist who bridged the gap between the abstract expressionism and pop-art.

10.45 Andy Parsons: Slacktivist. A stand-up performance by the Mock the Week panellist recorded over two nights at Harrogate Theatre in North Yorkshire during his I've Got a Shed tour in 2013. (R)

11.45 Film: In the Dark Half. (2012) Premiere. A teenager is distraught when the boy she was babysitting dies, and believes his spirit is haunting her. Horror, starring Jessica Barden.

1.05 Film: Jackpot. (2011) **2.25** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.40** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.00** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Oddbods. (R) **7.25** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.30** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30 Film:** Carry On Don't Lose Your Head. (1966) **11.15** Judge Rinder. (R) **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** Cash Trapped. (R) **1.30 Film:** Death on the Nile. (1978) Agatha Christie mystery, with Peter Ustinov. **4.10** Thunderbirds Are Go. **4.35** The Chase. (R) **5.35** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Ben Shephard invites celebrities to take part in a special edition of the quiz show, in which contestants Rufus Hound, Nadia Sawalha and JB Gill answer questions to win turns on an arcade-style machine. Dropping tokens down a choice of four chutes, they hope to knock piles of them off a moving shelf – and the more they collect, the better their chances of collecting the £20,000 prize for their selected charity. (R)

7.00 Go for It. Stephen Mulhern presents a special edition of the talent-based game show, this time giving members of the public a chance to take on previous contributors in a battle of one-upmanship. Should the competitors successfully pull off their implausible stunts, they stand a chance of winning a £1,000 prize, and a guest star has been lined up to make an appearance.

8.00 The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary presents the first of two grand final shows, in which the three remaining acts battle it out to determine to avoid ending the contest in third place.

10.05 The Jonathan Ross Show. Paul Hollywood, Miranda Hart, Keira Knightley, Kylie Minogue and David Walliams join Jonathan for festive fun. Last in the series.

11.10 ITV News; Weather.

11.25 Film: Senna. (2010) Documentary exploring the life of Formula One world champion Ayrton Senna.

1.20 Jackpot247. **3.00** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Gillette World Sport. **6.40** ITERA Expedition Race Ireland. **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Frasier. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. **11.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Deal or No Deal. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Cheltenham and Doncaster. **4.00** Jamie's Super Food. (R) **4.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.35** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Jutland: WWI's Greatest Sea Battle. Re-examining the events of the First World War sea battle, during which thousands of British sailors lost their lives in less than 24 hours. (R)

8.00 Pearl Harbour: The New Evidence. Documentary shedding light on whether there is any truth to conspiracy theorists' suggestions that London and Washington had been aware the Japanese were planning to assault the American naval base at Pearl Harbour in 1941, but refused to act on the intelligence as part of a plot to bring the full might of America's military into the Second World War. In the wake of the attack, an investigation into how US forces failed to anticipate the assault concluded that Admiral Husband Kimmel, Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, had been guilty of dereliction of duty, a charge that left his career in tatters. Making use of new research into a top-secret US military project, as well as thousands of freshly unearthed documents, letters and photographs, this film aims to answer – once and for all – whether the brutal attack that claimed nearly 2,500 lives could have been prevented.

9.00 It Was Alright in the 1970s. Matt Lucas returns to poke more fun at Britain's viewing habits in the 1970s, this time turning attention to politically incorrectness in some of the nation's favourite TV comedies.

10.00 Film: Paul. (2011) Sci-fi comedy, with Simon Pegg and Nick Frost.

12.05 Film: Kingpin. (1996) **2.10** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.15** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.10** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **5.25** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.45** The Fairly OddParents. (R) **10.20 Film:** Hats Off to Christmas! (2013) **12.05 Film:** Deck the Halls. (2006) Christmas comedy, starring Danny DeVito and Matthew Broderick. **1.55 Film:** The Nine Lives of Christmas. (2014) Romantic comedy, starring Brandon Routh and Kimberly Sustad. **3.30 Film:** Mrs Miracle 2: Miracle in Manhattan. (2010) Family drama sequel, starring Doris Roberts. **5.25 Film:** Finding Father Christmas. (2016) Premiere. Drama, starring Erin Krakow.

7.10 NCIS: Silent Night, Deadly Night. A murder investigation leads the team to provide protection for a pregnant marine whose unborn child could sway the balance of power in Afghanistan. (R)

8.00 NCIS: Mistletoe & Murder. Returning from a six-month posting in the Gulf, Navy lieutenant commander Megan Huffner opens her front door to find her husband Noel dead in his chair. Gibbs and the team investigate and find the victim died three or four weeks earlier, and an unusual $100 bill in his wallet proves to be a vital clue. Meanwhile, Tony's father visits for Christmas and looks to rebuild their fractured relationship. Guest starring Robert Wagner. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship, including Newcastle United v Birmingham City at St James' Park, Aston Villa v Wigan Athletic at Villa Park and Barnsley v Norwich City at Oakwell.

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two, including Bradford City v Charlton Athletic.

10.30 That's So 1989. A look at the events of 1989, which saw the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Tiananmen Square crackdown and chart hits by Black Box, Cher and Madonna. (R)

11.30 Impractical Jokers UK. The boys pursue bizarre lines of enquiry while manning a sweet shop, and act according to the will of their friends during a shoe shop-based challenge.

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10 Film:** Wrong Turn. (2003) **4.35** Access. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 The Other Pompeii: Life and Death in Herculaneum **8.00** Pavlopetri – The City Beneath the Waves **9.00** Modus **10.30** Top of the Pops: 1982 **11.45** Britain's Most Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned **12.45** More Dangerous Songs: And the Banned Played On **1.45** Heavy Metal Britannia **3.15** Metal at the BBC **3.45** Close

ITV2
11.45 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! Coming Out **12.50** The Hot Desk: Jonas Blue **1.00** Catchphrase Mother's Day Special **2.00** Hairspray Live! **4.40 Film:** Peter Pan (2003) **5.40** FYI Daily **5.45 Film:** Peter Pan (2003) **6.50 Film:** The Incredible Hulk (2008) **7.50** FYI Daily **7.55 Film:** The Incredible Hulk (2008) **9.00** Scorpion **10.05** The Xtra Factor Live **11.05** Celebrity Juice Christmas Special **12.05** Family Guy **1.05** American Dad! **1.55** Bordertown **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.35 A Touch of Frost **1.35** Inspector Morse **3.50** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** The Booze Cruise 2: The Treasure Hunt **11.00** A Is for Acid **1.10** Wycliffe **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.10 Storage Wars: Best of Darrell and Brandon **11.40** Pawn Stars **1.40 Film:** Tobruk (1967) **2.45** FYI Daily **2.50 Film:** Tobruk (1967) **3.50 Film:** Superman (1978) **5.10** FYI Daily **5.15 Film:** Superman (1978) **6.50** The Chase: Celebrity Special **7.55** River Monsters **9.00 Film:** Firefox (1982) **10.10** FYI Daily **10.15 Film:** Firefox (1982) **11.45 Film:** Assassins (1995) **12.50** FYI Daily **12.55 Film:** Assassins (1995) **2.30** Tommy Cooper **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
11.35 The Goldbergs **12.30** Black-ish **1.30 Film:** Gulliver's Travels (2010) **3.15** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **3.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.30 Film:** The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2010) **10.00** Gogglebox **12.05** The Big Bang Theory **2.00** The Inbetweeners **2.55** Rude Tube **3.50** Young & Hungry **4.10** Animals Unleashed **5.00** Revenge

Film4
11.00 Miracle on 34th Street (1947) **1.00** City of Ember (2008) **2.50** Love Happens (2009) **4.55** We Bought a Zoo (2011) **7.20** Men in Black II (2002) **9.00** Fast & Furious 5 (2011) Action adventure sequel, starring Vin Diesel and Dwayne Johnson. **11.35** The Anomaly (2014) **1.30** Mindscape (2013) **3.35** Close

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CHOICE

Hattie Morahan

My Mother and Other Strangers (BBC1, 9pm)

Rose is preoccupied by Dreyfuss' absence and rejects him when he returns after three weeks. The children are delighted when it is revealed that a Christmas party is going to be held at the aerodrome, but the celebration stirs up tension within the community, especially when Ned Hanlon discovers his family are not invited. Michael receives bad news from his cousin and needs the support of his family more than ever, while Rose is left torn when she learns the reason for Dreyfuss' disappearance during the Christmas party.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Michael Gove. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.45** Lifeline. **2.55 Film:** Kung Fu Panda. (2008) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jack Black. **4.20** Planet Earth II. (R) **5.20** Songs of Praise. **5.55** BBC News.

6.10 Regional Programme.

6.20 Countryfile. The team explores the various landscapes of Aberdeenshire, where Helen Skelton visits an open-air aquarium and a village with no cars while Joe Crowley finds out about the area's diminishing wildcat population. Sean Fletcher visits a turkey farm using alpacas as guard dogs, Adam Henson catches up with the winner of One Man and His Dog, and Tom Heap reports on council farms. Including weather for the week ahead.

7.20 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal which of the four remaining couples is through to the final.

8.00 Planet Earth II. Footage of wild animals that have made a home in cities, including leopards on the streets of Mumbai, peregrine falcons hunting among New York's skyscrapers, hyenas that live peacefully alongside the people of Harar and langurs in Jodhpur, which are regarded as having great religious significance by the citizens. The programme also examines how some animals are struggling to survive in urban environments, and questions how cities can be built to serve their needs as well as those of the human inhabitants. Last in the series.

9.00 My Mother and Other Strangers. Rose rejects Dreyfuss when he returns to the village, but feels torn when she learns the reason for his disappearance during a Christmas party at the aerodrome. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2.

11.45 Sunny D.

12.10 Citizen Khan. (R) **12.40** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.45** BBC News.

BBC2

7.15 Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R) **8.15** Carol Klein's Plant Odysseys. (R) **8.45** Countryfile. (R) **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R) **11.45** Best Bakes Ever. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00 Film:** Quantrill's Raiders. (1958) Civil War Western, starring Steve Cochran. **2.10 Film:** Dial M for Murder. (1954) Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Ray Milland. **3.50** Athletics: European Cross Country Championships. **4.50** Heir Hunters. (R) **5.35** Flog It! (R)

6.35 The Toys That Made Christmas. Robert Webb takes a light-hearted look back at playthings of the past, offering fortysomethings the chance to reminisce about the days before PlayStations, laptops and iPods. It was a more innocent time when Fuzzy-Felt and Spirograph brought out the artist in everyone, girls spent hours with Barbie and boys were engrossed in trying to bolt together their impossibly fiddly Meccano models – to name just four of the toys mentioned. (R)

8.00 Film: The Lone Ranger. (2013) Premiere. A lawyer is left for dead after an ambush in which his Texas ranger brother is killed, but is saved by a mysterious Native American fugitive. Concealing his identity behind a mask, he and his new ally hunt down the outlaws behind the attack – only to find their actions are just part of a larger evil scheme. Western, starring Armie Hammer and Johnny Depp. Edited for pre-watershed broadcast.

10.20 QI XL. Richard Osman, Lolly Adefope and Lee Mack join regular panellist Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig to contemplate the theme "naked truth" in this extended episode.

11.05 Black Is the New Black. The experiences of people who are black and British, with contributions from figures drawn from the worlds of politics, business, religion and science. (R)

11.35 Black Is the New Black. Naomi Campbell, Dizzee Rascal, David Harewood, Tinie Tempah, Trevor McDonald and Alesha Dixon share their thoughts on growing up, touching on family, school and the working world. (R)

12.05 Film: Ash Wednesday. (2002) **1.40** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.35** Holby City. (R) **3.35** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories. (R) **7.00** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Oddbods. (R) **7.25** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.30** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Wild Australia with Ray Mears. (R) **10.00** Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel. (R) **11.00 Film:** Dragonheart. (1996) **12.55** ITV News; Weather. **1.00** Midsomer Murders. (R) **2.55** The X Factor. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.30 Off Their Rockers. Tulisa Contostavlos loses her chauffeur, Marry and Joan compete to see who is the most like a Kardashian, and Dave gets his back waxed. Last in the series.

7.00 The Next Great Magician. Stephen Mulhern and Rochelle Humes present the series finale, in which the winners from the past five weeks' shows return with their most spectacular illusions. Last in the series.

8.00 The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary introduces the climax of this year's talent contest. The results of last night's performance at Wembley Arena are in and one of the three finalists has been eliminated from the contest. The two remaining acts must give one final performance to impress the viewing public and the judges, before one of them is crowned as this year's winner. Last in the series.

10.05 ITV News; Weather.

10.25 Ball and Boe: One Night Only. Double Olivier Award-winning star of the stage Michael Ball and top tenor Alfie Boe join forces for an evening of music, including theatrical classics from their new album Together. (R)

11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show stateside, where he invites American guests to air their differences, and dispenses his own judgment on the situation. (R)

12.10 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.25** Deal or No Deal. **1.20** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.45** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.10** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.35** The Simpsons. (R) **3.00** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30** The Simpsons. (R) **4.00 Film:** Jingle All the Way. (1996) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **5.45** Channel 4 News.

6.15 Film: Paddington. (2014) Premiere. An earthquake forces a bear from the Peruvian jungle to start a new life in London. He finds modern Britain to be very different from the stories told to him by his aunt, but makes a new home with a kindly family. However, a sinister taxidermist intends to turn him into a museum exhibit. Comedy based on Michael Bond's series of children's books, starring Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins and Nicole Kidman, with the voice of Ben Whishaw.

8.00 Christmas at the Chateau. Dick Strawbridge and Angel Adoree await the arrival of their guests, who are expecting a luxurious Christmas at the chateau. Dick continues work on installing the lift, but the project tests his ingenuity to the limit, while Angel finds more valuables in the attic, including a collection of vinyl records. Last in the series.

9.00 Humans. Laura discovers that Mia and Hester are preparing to break into the silo, and goes in search of Niska to ask for her help – but the synths' attack on the facility does not go to plan. Karen goes in search of Athena and makes a life-changing decision. Mattie asks Max to help save Leo from Hester's influence, while Toby receives a disturbing message.

10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)

11.00 Film: Filth. (2013) A corrupt policeman plots to turn his colleagues against each other as his own cocaine use spirals out of control. Black comedy, starring James McAvoy and Imogen Poots.

12.50 Film: The Iceman. (2012) **2.35** The Last Leg. (R) **3.30** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Milkshake! Monkey. **6.05** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **6.10** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.25** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.40** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.50** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.00** Seaside Antics. (R) **7.05** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.15** Pip Ahoy! (R) **7.30** Little Princess. (R) **7.45** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.00** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.25** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **8.40** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.25** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.55** The Fairly OddParents. (R) **10.30** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** The Gadget Show. (R) **12.55** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **1.55 Film:** Grumpy Cat's Worst Christmas Ever. (2014) Premiere. Comedy, starring Megan Charpentier. **3.35 Film:** A Prince for Christmas. (2015) Premiere. Festive romance, starring Viva Bianca. **5.20 Film:** A Cinderella Christmas. (2016) Premiere. Romantic comedy, starring Emma Rigby and Peter Porte.

7.10 Film: Jackie Chan's The Forbidden Kingdom. (2008) An American teenager obsessed with kung fu movies is sent back in time to ancient China, where he joins the battle to free the imprisoned Monkey King. The only problem is he has no martial arts skills of his own, and will need the assistance of two legendary warriors to become the hero he needs to be. Martial arts adventure, starring Jet Li and Jackie Chan. Edited for violence and language.

9.00 Film: The Expendables 3. (2014) Premiere. Soldier of fortune Barney Ross discovers an old friend he was forced to kill is still alive, and has become a powerful arms dealer with vengeance on his mind. Barney is forced to recruit a new band of mercenaries and adopt more modern tactics to deal with this threat to him and his past associates. Action thriller sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone and Mel Gibson. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm.

11.25 Film: The Last Stand. (2013) The sheriff of a small town on the Mexican border tries to stop a drug lord from fleeing the country. Action thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

1.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Secret Life of Puppies: Terrible Twos. (R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **4.50** House Doctor. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Horizon: The Secret Life of the Dog **8.00** Choir of the Year 2016 **9.30** The Flying Archaeologist **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: Seeing Stars **11.30** How to Build a Nuclear Submarine **12.30** Masterspy of Moscow: George Blake – Storyville **2.00** Monkey Planet **3.00** The Other Pompeii: Life and Death in Herculaneum **4.00** Close

ITV2

3.30 Film: The Polar Express (2004) **4.30** FYI Daily **4.35 Film:** The Polar Express (2004) **5.25** The Smurfs: A Christmas Carol **5.55** Catchphrase Christmas Special **6.55** You've Been Framed! Gold At Christmas **8.00 Film:** The Mask (1994) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05 Film:** The Mask (1994) **10.05** The Xtra Factor **11.05** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.30** The Cleveland Show **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.05 Inspector Morse **1.20 Film:** Columbo: By Dawn's Early Light (1974) **3.30 Film:** Les Miserables (1978) **4.35** FYI Daily **4.40 Film:** Les Miserables (1978) **5.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **8.00** Rosemary & Thyme **10.00** Alexander Armstrong's Land of the Midnight Sun **11.05 Film:** Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10 Film:** Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) **1.25** Inspector Morse **3.15** May the Best House Win **4.55** You're Only Young Twice **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

3.30 Film: Superman (1978) **4.45** FYI Daily **4.50 Film:** Superman (1978) **6.25 Film:** The Great Outdoors (1988) **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30 Film:** The Great Outdoors (1988) **8.10 Film:** Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **9.10** FYI Daily **9.15 Film:** Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **10.00 Film:** Death Wish V: The Face of Death (1994) **11.00** FYI Daily **11.05 Film:** Death Wish V: The Face of Death (1994) **12.05 Film:** Universal Soldier: Day of Reckoning (2012) **1.05** FYI Daily **1.10 Film:** Universal Soldier: Day of Reckoning (2012) **2.15** Tommy Cooper **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen

E4

1.00 Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) **3.00** The Big Bang Theory: Time Warped **9.00 Film:** Ted (2012) **11.00** Tattoo Fixers **12.05** Naked Attraction **1.10** Gogglebox **2.15** New Girl **3.45** Hollyoaks

Film4

1.00 Short Circuit 2 (1988) **3.15** Carry On Teacher (1959) **5.00** Field of Dreams (1989) **7.05** Unstoppable (2010) **9.00** Men in Black 3 (2012)

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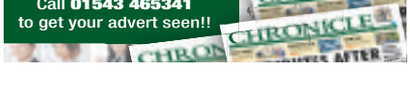

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

An Unexpected Christmas, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Newlyweds the Fabers plan to host their first Christmas together and want everything to be perfect for their visiting relatives. However, Cynthia learns she is pregnant ahead of schedule and Steve suddenly loses his job, so the couple decide to hide the news from their families. Festive comedy, starring Susie Abromeit, Dillon Casey and Erin Gray. (2016)

TUESDAY

Mrs Miracle 2: Miracle in Manhattan, Channel 5, 1.30pm

The kindly Mrs Merkle takes a job in the toy section of a financially struggling department store. She helps the downtrodden manager to enjoy a happy Christmas for once by making a success of the business and assisting him in his quest to find love. Family drama sequel, starring Doris Roberts, Eric Johnson, Jewel Staite and Lauren Holly. (2010)

22 Jump Street, Friday, Channel 5, 9pm

WEDNESDAY

A Nanny for Christmas, Channel 5, 3.20pm

An unemployed advertising executive gets a job as an au pair and tries to give the kids in her charge a break from their rigidly organised lives. She tries to impress an executive she is attracted to by claiming to still be in the advertising business, a deception that proves hard to maintain. Romantic comedy, starring Emmanuelle Vaugier and Richard Ruccolo. (2010)

THURSDAY

A Husband for Christmas, Channel 5, 1.25pm

Sparks fly between a graphic designer and her male counterpart when they agree to a loveless marriage of convenience to help each other out. Romantic comedy, starring Ricky Ross. (2016)

FRIDAY

22 Jump Street, Channel 5, 9pm

Undercover cops Schmidt and Jenko are sent on a new assignment at a university. When one joins the college American football team and the other falls in with a crowd of Bohemian artists, loyalty to their new cliques puts a strain on their friendship. Crime comedy, starring Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. (2014)

Claudia looks to make all the right moves

If you feel like the pop music of 2016 has largely passed you by, you're in good company.

Claudia Winkleman admits she's not exactly got her finger on the pulse either. She says: "Music stopped for me when Duran Duran stopped. So you know how you have a cool person? I'm the opposite of that.

"The music I like is the music that I listen to on the radio all the time and I'm like 'oh I know that one!'"

Although we suspect the Strictly Come Dancing presenter is being more than a little self-deprecating, it's probably for the best that she's not hosting the BBC Music Awards 2016 on her own. Instead, she's joining forces with Fearne Cotton, who she thinks is the perfect person for the job.

Claudia says: "I can't wait to be with Fearne as all we've ever done is chatted and gossiped. She's a proper friend, and we've never worked together so I'm just going to be standing there smiling at her.

"She's amazing and she's got musical gravitas. She knows what she's talking about and I can be the idiot, and that always suits me."

And of course, the awards will give Claudia and the viewers a chance to remind themselves (or learn for the first time) what's been going on in the world of music over the past 12 months.

The ceremony, which comes to us live from the ExCel in London, will feature five awards; BBC Music British Artist of the Year, Song of the Year, BBC Music Introducing Artist of the Year, BBC Radio 1 Live Lounge Performance of the Year and BBC Radio 2 Album of the Year.

And there will also be live performances from some of the biggest names in music, including Kaiser Chiefs, Lukas Graham, Emeli Sandé, the 1975, Robbie Williams and Craig David.

Fearne is especially excited about seeing Craig: "He's a really old friend of mine and I absolutely adore him and I love the fact that he's had this amazing comeback after all these years of holding his nerve and doing what he does, just privately still making great music. I think the arena is going to go absolutely wild for him.

"So I'm really excited about that and also The 1975 are a great little band doing so well internationally now and it's always lovely to see Robbie play as well. Literally everyone there will be fantastic."

Claudia adds: " I can't wait to see Robbie Williams. He's such a brilliant showman and I don't think he's ever given a lacklustre performance."

It might even be enough to convince Claudia that there is musical life after Duran Duran, but just don't expect her to become such a fully fledged muso that she embraces the current vinyl revival.

When asked if she'll go back to buying LPs, her answer is: "Don't be ridiculous. I'm technically challenged because I am an old lady but I have worked out iTunes."

BBC Music Awards 2016, Monday, BBC1, 8.30pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

David Blaine: Beyond Magic

Channel 4, 9pm

The illusionist is back in action – and about time. He seems to have given up burying himself alive, living in a Perspex box or standing on something very high – at least for now – in favour of getting back to basics, proving once and for all that less really can be more. Blaine first became famous for his street magic performances, during which he stunned members of the public with a series of bizarre tricks that defied explanation and expectations. This new, one-hour special sees him do the same again, and his targets are some of the world's most famous faces, including David Beckham, Johnny Depp, David Chappelle, John Travolta, Emma Stone, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Patrick Stewart, who is no stranger to mind-bending stunts thanks to his performance as Charles Xavier in the X-Men movies.

TUESDAY

The Royal Variety Performance

ITV, 7.30pm

David Walliams hosts the annual event, this time from London's Hammersmith Apollo in the presence of The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. The line-up includes Barry Gibb, Sting, Robbie Williams, Gary Barlow, Sheridan Smith, Emeli Sande, DNCE, OneRepublic, ABC and Britain's Got Talent winner Lance Corporal Richard Jones. There are performances by the cast of the Beatles Cirque du Soleil's LOVE show, and previews of Gershwin's musical An American in Paris, and The Girls, which both open in the West End next year. Amber Riley, star of Dreamgirls, and McFly's Tom Fletcher also take part, along with Diversity, Joe Lycett, Alan Davies and Rob Beckett.

WEDNESDAY

The Trafford Centre: Countdown to Christmas

Channel 5, 9pm

It's a common complaint that Christmas seems to start earlier each year, but at the Manchester's Trafford Centre, there's a good reason why the plans for the festive season begin in the spring. With six million Christmas shoppers expected to visit the retail complex, the staff really can't afford to put off the preparations until after Bonfire Night. This two-part documentary follows events manager Nikki Tansey as she spearheads the centre's Christmas operations for the first time, a job that involves heading to Huddersfield to pick up 50 miles of fairy lights and enough baubles to fill a swimming pool. But can she also find a star to switch all those lights on? Meanwhile, Nikki's bosses hope a new TV advertising campaign will ensure shoppers don't abandon the centre in favour of online retailers.

The Royal Variety Performance, Tuesday, ITV, 7.30pm

THURSDAY

Xmas Excess: Parents Splash the Cash

Channel 5, 8pm

Christmas is a time for giving, but it seems that some people get rather carried away with that idea – and some of them are featured in this documentary. It introduces viewers to the mums and dads who can't help spoiling their offspring at this time of year. Among them is devoted mother-of-three Emma Tapping, whose photograph of her tree hidden by a mountain of presents hit the headlines. Also discussing the subject is Irene Malin who, with her oil tycoon husband, takes the camera crew on one of her epic shopping sprees, during which they splash the cash on jewellery worth thousands of pounds. Well, if you've got it, flaunt it, right? Or is it a case that you can have too much of a good thing after all?

FRIDAY

The Gadget Show

Channel 5, 7pm

If you have a techie in your life who would love the latest gadget for Christmas but you're on a tight budget, then never fear – the team are ending the current series with some money-saving advice. Harry Wallop gives Ortis a few tips on how the early adopters can get the newest technology for less, and Jason reveals how you can cash in on the craze for all the things retro by selling off some of your gizmos that are no longer at the cutting edge. Jon tests out three TVs to see which offers the best value for money, Amy takes a closer look at some of the latest entertainment packages from the likes of Netflix, Amazon and Now TV, and we also find out whether second-hand premium devices are a better buy than their brand new mid-range equivalents.

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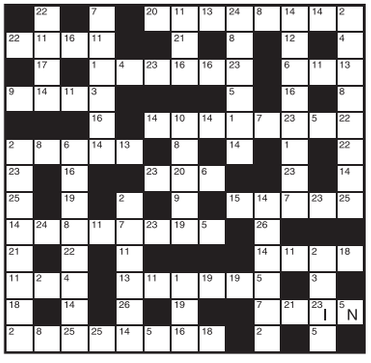
BRAIN GYM No.407

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



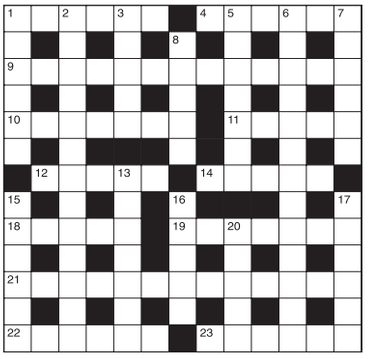
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5 N	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23 I
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
V	Y	X	N	I	D	A	L	R	W	Q	T	M
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	U	K	B	F	C	O	E	P	J	G	Z	S

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. The seat holds 50 who quail (6)
4. Knock the girl in this direction (6)
9. Don't be secretive at home: entertain everybody! (4,4,5)
10. No artificial note (7)
11. Busy worker begins small church in wood (5)
12. One offers next to no time in it (5)
14. Look hard at such rates (5)
18. Love affair of the first persons in the morning (5)
19. Evict the actors for a pariah (7)
21. Tearing mine to bits in military discipline (13)
22. He pays rent for article in temporary home (6)
23. Presumably actors go through them as well as on them (6)

Down

1. Monarch has degree in cooking (6)
2. Originator of shocking notes? (8,5)
3. Noted performers, together (5)
5. Live according to custom (7)
6. Demolition of a residence is a crime (5-8)
7. Repeat the sound about when I leave. Cheerio! (2-4)
8. They make rings round them (5)
13. Stoker who tries to undo his own work? (7)
15. Vegetable causes vehicle to decay (6)
16. Committed to spring (5)
17. Paradoxically they may have seats in them (6)
20. Pamphlet about an area of land? (5)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Sieve (6)
4. Teem (6)
9. Unemotional (13)
10. Coagulated (7)
11. Bring on (5)
12. Medieval coin (5)
14. Disgrace (5)
18. Upright (5)
19. Beaming (7)
21. Forethought (13)
22. Oppose (6)
23. Prime (6)

Down

1. Lessen (6)
2. Depravity (13)
3. Smallest (5)
5. Studious (7)
6. Solo (13)
7. Gloomy (6)
8. Apart (5)
13. Ingenuous (7)
15. Assistant (6)
16. Weak (5)
17. Niggardly (6)
20. Cover (5)

Sudoku

		9					6	7
	6		4			9		8
	3			2	9	4		
			2	6		8		
	4				1		3	
		1		5	8			6
		7	8	4			5	
6		4			7			
9	8			3				4

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

2	7	6	1	3	4	8	5	9
4	8	9	5	6	2	1	3	7
5	3	1	9	8	7	2	4	6
9	4	7	8	5	3	6	2	1
8	6	3	7	2	1	4	9	5
1	2	5	4	9	6	7	8	3
7	9	8	6	4	5	3	1	2
3	1	4	2	7	9	5	6	8
6	5	2	3	1	8	9	7	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Right-hand men; 7 Donor; 8 Catch; 9 Run; 10 Fieldfare; 11 Theory; 12 Andrew; 15 Card table; 17 Lei; 18 Erica; 19 Ebony; 21 Undertakings. Down: 1 Return ticket; 2 Tun; 3 Airmen; 4 Decadence; 5 Extra; 6 Wheelwrights; 7 Dense; 10 First-rate; 13 Rally; 14 Object; 16 Reign; 20 Oak. QUICK - Across: 1 Inarticulate; 7 There; 8 Grain; 9 Rip; 10 Impotence; 11 Excite; 12 Morass; 15 Infuriate; 17 Gun; 18 Twine; 19 Under; 21 Intelligence. Down: 1 Intermediate; 2 Toe; 3 Creepy; 4 Lightsome; 5 Train; 6 Unseasonable; 7 Topic; 10 Intercede; 13 Anger; 14 Manual; 16 Feign; 20 Dig.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. How were the six daughters of Lord Redesdale better known?
2. Which marine mammal's two N hemisphere varieties are the Steller's and the Californian?
3. Which country's mafia is called the Yakuza?
4. Who wrote the play Chips with Everything in 1962?
5. From which words does the Modem derive its name?
6. Who played the female lead in the film Pulp Fiction?
7. Which philosopher was Socrates's pupil and Aristotle's teacher?
8. What is the only place in England still to use the title alderman?
9. What do the letters RIP stand for?
10. Who is the patron saint of Spain?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 The Queen Mother; 2 Corsica; 3 Harry Saltzman; 4 Deserts; 5 Clematis; 6 Sir Edward Elgar; 7 Anton Chekhov; 8 Jamiroquai; 9 Electronic musical instrument; 10 Yangon.

Niner: BLUEPRINT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

519243 gives a church leader,
537892 gives a second church leader,
513796 gives a church district.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Teamwork Juhel in crown at Masala

With tasty dishes and such helpful staff MARK SHIPP found the Masala Lounge was absolutely mint

The Masala Lounge, in Lichfield Road, Wednesfield, which opened four years ago

The plush interior of popular restaurant, run by Juhel Miah and Hafiz Khan

FORGET Peter Kay and his garlic bread, I've found an alternative taste sensation, mint rice. Mint . . . and rice. It's the future I tell you.

It was not my initial choice to accompany my fish dish at the Masala Lounge in Wednesfield, I had opted for a sizzling variety. However, I listened to the advice of the waiter, and didn't regret it.

Located at the old Cross Guns pub, in Lichfield Road, the restaurant itself is doing a roaring trade and has been a popular draw for the townsfolk since it opened four years ago.

Inviting

It's easy to see why as it's spacious and inviting, with more than 100 covers, and with booths for the extra privacy and comfort, more than adequately catering for the customers wishing to get a taste of what is on offer.

Parking is available, too, which is always an added attraction. Nine staff are employed at Masala Lounge, and it's clear they have a rapport with the clientele.

Jointly operated by Juhel Miah and Hafiz Khan, one could even say it's the 'Juhel' in the crown.

The management team have run restaurants around the West Midlands, while the chef has 35 years experience. Having honed his skills in India, he has worked in many top UK restaurants, so there's no doubting the quality of fare on offer. It has five stars from RateMy Plate and has been highly recommended on Trip Advisor due to its favourable reviews on the site.

The menu comes with fusion appetisers and authentic curries, together with tandoori exclusives and traditional favourites. Fish dishes include the zinga cinnamon and the cod machli salan, which was my choice. But this was after starters, something I rarely partake in.

They just sounded so tempting, however, like the haddock kebab, dipped in eggs, with mixed spices and breadcrumbs. I overlooked that, though, in favour of the Bombay wraps, chicken breast served in a sweet chilli sauce, while the other half chose the vegetable samosa.

She even strayed from tradition by going half and half with her regular chicken makhani, combining it with a chicken dahi, which she enjoyed just as much. Oh yes, and there was a tikka masala for our younger guest.

My own main was meaty, only moderately spicy, but the accompanying rice was something I would never have dreamed of. It worked a treat. The restaurant is not licensed, but I was able to wash mine down with some ale that I bought earlier. The starters took their toll as we were unable to manage desserts, despite its tempting selections.

Masala Lounge is open every day from 5.30pm. Bookings are being taken for Christmas Day, with three choices of either Indian or English fare for £28.95 per adult and £12.95 for children, under 12.

Call 01902 865934 or email info@themasalalounge.com

Tables laid out at restaurant Pictures: Nakwhal.com

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Chicken £5.95
Lamb £5.95
Tandoori Murgh Masala £5.95
Tandoori King Prawn Masala £7.95
Vegetable Mixed Masala £5.50

Tikka Curry Mild
Chicken £5.95
Lamb £5.95
Makhon Chicken Curry £5.95
Tandoori King Prawn Curry £7.25

Rogan Josh Dishes Medium
Chicken £4.95
Meat £5.30
Prawn £5.30
King Prawn Rogan Josh £5.95
Tandoori Chicken Rogan Josh £5.60
Chicken Tikka Rogan Josh £5.60

Balti
Balti Tandoori Chicken £5.60
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90

Balti Tikka
Chicken £5.60
Lamb £5.60
Balti King Prawn £5.95
Balti Keema £4.60
Balti Special Mixed £5.95
Balti Tandoori Special £6.95
Balti Tandoori Chicken & Tikka £5.95
Balti Tandoori King Prawn & Chicken £6.95

Bhuna Dishes
Chicken £4.60
Lamb £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Bhuna £5.50
Tikka Bhuna
Chicken £5.50
Lamb £5.50
Tandoori Chicken Bhuna £5.50
Tandoori King Prawn Bhuna £6.50

Dupiaza Dishes - Medium Hot
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Dupiaza £5.95
Chicken Tikka Dupiaza £5.60
Tandoori Chicken Dupiaza £5.60
Tandoori King Prawn Dupiaza £6.60

Dansak Dishes
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Dansak £5.96
Tandoori Chicken Dansak £5.60
Chicken Tikka Dansak £5.60

Bengal Dishes
Chicken £5.10
Meat £5.30
Prawn £5.30
King Prawn Bengal £5.95
Tandoori Chicken Bengal £5.60
Chicken Tikka Bengal £5.60

Madras Dishes
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Madras £5.95
Tandoori Chicken Madras £5.60
Chicken Tikka Madras £5.60

Vindaloo Dishes Very hot
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Vindaloo £5.95
Tandoori Chicken Vindaloo £5.60
Chicken Tikka Vindaloo £5.60

Patbia Dishes
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Pathia £5.95
Tandoori Chicken Pathia £5.60
Chicken Tikka Pathia £5.60

Korma Dishes
Chicken £4.60
Meat £4.90
Prawn £4.90
King Prawn Korma £5.95
Tandoori Chicken Korma £5.60
Chicken Tikka Korma £5.60

Combination dishes
Balti Chicken Bhuna & Balti Meat Rogan Josh £5.95
Balti Chicken Tikka Curry & Balti Chicken Rogan - Josh £5.95
Balti King Prawn Bhuna & Balti King Prawn Dansak £6.95
Balti Chicken Jalfrezi & Balti Chicken Tikka Masala £5.95

Biryani Dishes
Chef's Special Biryani £6.95
Chicken Tikka Biryani £6.25
Lamb Tikka Biryani £6.25
Tandoori Chicken Biryani £6.25
Tandoori King Prawn Biryani £7.95
Tandoori Special Mixed Biryani £6.95
Chicken Biryani £5.50
Meat Biryani £5.75
Prawn Biryani £5.75
King Prawn Biryani £6.95
Persian Chicken Biryani £5.95
Malayan Chicken Biryani £5.95
Vegetable Biryani £4.95
Mushroom Biryani £4.95

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✓ Free time in London
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Selected Saturday departures until August 2017
Price Includes...
✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with 3-course evening meal and full English breakfast ✓ A show ticket for a Saturday matinee performance of a TOP West End Show from our fabulous selection ✓ Free time in London
2 days, by coach from £159.95pp
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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

An improved and well-equipped one bed mews house

An improved well equipped one bedroomed mews house, 67 Apple Walk in Heath Hayes, overlooks public open space and nature reserve.

In a convenient position and with easily maintained accommodation, it is for sale through Boot & Son at £103,950 with no chain.

It has a well maintained garden, an allocated parking space, a porch, lounge/refitted kitchen area, landing, bedroom and a refitted bathroom, double glazing and gas central heating.

In more detail, on the ground floor the porch has ceramic floor tiles and a storage cupboard with a power point, shelving and a vent for a tumble dryer.

The lounge/kitchen area has laminate flooring and a feature fire surround having a composite marble hearth and an electric fire.

Being refitted, the kitchen area has base units, a peninsula unit, wall cupboards, laminate working surfaces, an inset stainless steel sink having mixer taps, an electric built-in oven, gas hob, oven hood, plumbing for an automatic washing machine, a storage cupboard, ceramic tiled floor and a Baxi gas fired central heating unit and power points.

Off the landing, the bedroom has laminate flooring and an airing cupboard.

The refitted bathroom is fully tiled. It has a white/chrome suite incorporating panelled bath having an electric shower over, a shower screen, pedestal hand basin, low-flush WC and laminate flooring.

Outside is an allocated parking space and a rear garden. This has a gated pathway, a paved patio, lawns and ornamental shrubs and the fore garden is enclosed with fencing. The fore garden also overlooks landscaped public open space/nature reserve to the front. There is an electric light and cold water tap located to the outside of the main building.

Boot and Son is an Independent partnership of professionally qualified chartered surveyors and estate agents whose present partners have over 65 years of unrivalled experience between them within the South Staffordshire and Cannock area.

HEATH HAYES £103,950

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Boot & Son
TEL: 01543 505454
EMAIL: info@bootandson.co.uk

KEY FEATURES

- 1 bedroom
- Easily maintained
- Nature reserve views
- Convenient position
- No chain

He's sold

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- **Free valuation**
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- **Adverts in local newspapers, online and office window display**
- **Registered house hunters**
- **Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast**

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.

CANNOCK

£395,000

Stunning executive family-sized home is now available

A stunning executive detached four-bedroomed family home in Sunfield Road, Shoal Hill, Cannock, is in a highly sought-after location.

It is for sale through Webbs at £395,000.

This very well presented family home situated in a sought after cul de sac location, being close to all local amenities, shops and schools briefly comprises of a through hallway, guest WC, lounge/diner, a refitted family kitchen diner, four generous bedrooms, a refitted bathroom, a dressing room and en-suite to master bedroom. Externally there is landscaped gardens, a driveway and garage.

Having up and over door, the garage has power, lighting, and access doors to the garden and kitchen.

The selling agents are expecting the sale of this property to generate a lot of interest from discerning buyers interested in such a well presented residence in a quiet cul-de-sac position.

Contact Webbs on 01543 468846.

A superb and highly individual detached large family residence

CANNOCK

£1,000,000 >>>

Superbly appointed and highly individual, Hadleigh House, 55 Old Penkridge Road in Cannock is an architect designed detached family residence with intelligent home hub facilities.

It is for sale through Boot & Son at £1,000,000. It lies on an exceptionally well positioned plot which extends to approximately 0.42 of an acre located in this prime residential area close to town centre facilities and the Shoal Hill district of Cannock.

It has a canopy porch with an oak panelled ceiling, a stunning reception hall with oak flooring, a lounge with a limestone Minster style feature fire surround having natural flame gas fire with a decorative canopy, brick hearth and inset, and French doors.

It also has a family TV room, a study, dining room, cloakroom/ WC, a breakfast kitchen with built-in appliances, a garden room, utility room, galleried landing, master bedroom suite, bedroom one with a walk-in dressing room and an en-suite, bedroom two en-suite, two further bedrooms, an attic room and luxury bathroom, double garage, WC, additional garage and gardens.

Call 01543 505454 for further details.

Detached house with immaculate contemporary interior design

CHURCHBRIDGE

£255,000 <<<

A fabulous detached house with immaculate contemporary interiors in Elliot Drive, Churchbridge, is for sale through Paul Dubberley at offers over £255,000 with no chain.

This spacious detached property would make an ideal family home and viewing is essential to fully appreciate the scope and finish of the property on offer.

With central heating and double glazing, the accommodation includes a light and spacious dual aspect lounge and a superb kitchen/diner with appliances, a a 'utility cupboard' with plumbing for a washing machine and a useful guest WC, master bedroom en-suite, another generous double with fitted wardrobes, two further good sized bedrooms and the family bathroom. Externally the rear garden is laid mainly to lawn with a paved patio area and there is driveway parking to the front giving access to the detached garage.

Call 01543 686444.

Immaculately presented five-bed home on exclusive park

CANNOCK WOOD
£750,000 <<<

This immaculately presented five-bedroomed detached house in Chestall Park, Chestall Park, Cannock Wood is set on a highly sought after exclusive residential estates in the heart of Beaudesert Park.

It is for sale through Lovett & Co at £750,000.

Lovett&Co. Estate Agents are pleased to offer for sale this immaculately presented five bedroom detached house set on a highly sought after exclusive residential estate in the heart of Beaudesert Park. The property has undergone substantial structural and cosmetic work to bring it right up to date with a modern contemporary high specification finish throughout. Stand out features include a stunning open plan ground floor living area with a modern fitted kitchen, dining and sitting areas, a high specification bathroom and an en-suite.

Call 01543 889410 or visit www.lovettco.co.uk

A greatly improved semi-detached house

HEATH HAYES
£169,995

Occupying a pleasant position on a popular development, with ample parking, 39 Mill Crescent, Heath Hayes is a three-bedroomed semi-detached house that has been greatly improved by the current owner.

It is for sale through Flint & Co at £169,995.

Located in the popular area of Heath Hayes nearby facilities include good local schools, a supermarket, a post office, a dentist and bus routes all within walking distance.

Its location provides ease of access to Cannock town centre and commuter routes including A460, A5 and M6 toll road linking the Midlands motorway network.

It has a kitchen, an entrance hall, study/playroom, a lounge/diner, three bedrooms (master en-suite), a beautiful family bathroom and a rear garden.

Contact Flint & Co on 01543 624400.

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CANNOCK
REMINGTON DRIVE

- 2 Bed Bunaglow
- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Shower Room
- Gardens

£109,950

BURNTWOOD
HOLLY GROVE LANE

- Spacious Bungalow
- Hall, Kitchen
- Lounge/Dining Room
- 2 Bedrooms
- Refitted Bathroom
- Driveway, Garage
- Private Garden
- G.C.H. D.Glazed

£184,950

CANNOCK
WESTMINSTER ROAD

- Semi Detached
- Hallway
- Lounge/Diner
- Refitted Kitchen
- Utility Room
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Refitted Bathroom
- Driveway

£120,000

CANNOCK
OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD

- Traditional Detached
- Entrance Hall,
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Conservatory.
- dining kitchen
- Guest WC, 4 Bedrooms
- Shower Room

£399,950

HEATH HAYES
CLEETON STREET

- Detached Home
- Through Hallway
- Lounge, Guests WC
- Kitchen/Diner
- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Driveway, Garage
- Gardens

£210,000

BURNTWOOD
WATER STREET

- Fully Refurbished
- No Chain
- Wooden Frame Porch
- Through Hallway
- Open Plan Living
- Utility Room, Guest WC.

£289,950

BURNTWOOD
CHASE ROAD

- Deceptively Spacious
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Kitchen, WC
- Conservatory
- 3 Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Parking
- Gardens

£160,000

CANNOCK
EARLSWOOD WAY

- 5 Bed Family Home
- Hallway, WC
- Lounge/diner
- Kitchen/diner
- Utility Room
- Bathroom
- En-suite
- Double Garage

£285,000

WEDGES MILLS
WOOD LANE

- Outstanding Detached Dorma● Through Hallway. Lounge●
- Stunning Kitchen● Dining Room, Conservatory● Utility Room.

£345,000

CANNOCK
OAK AVENUE

- Extended Home
- Through Hall, Lounge
- Guests WC
- Kitchen, Utility
- 5 Bedrooms
- Refitted Bathroom
- Gardens

£159,950

HEDNESFORD
MARCONI PLACE

- Field Views
- Hallway, Lounge
- Kitchen/diner
- Playroom (garage conversion)
- 3 Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Driveway

£144,950

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

- MOTIVATED SELLER ● NO CHAIN● GENEROUS
- PROPORTIONED SEMI DETACHED PERIOD HOME
- VILLAGE

£119,950

HEDNESFORD
NELSON DRIVE

- Outstanding Detached
- Viewing Essential
- Through Hallway
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility, WC
- 4 Bedrooms

£340,000

HEATH HAYES
BANK STREET

- Traditional Semi
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Ground Floor Bathroom
- Rear Garden

£126,950

CANNOCK
SUNFIELD ROAD

- Stunning Home
- Hallway, WC
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen
- 4 Bedroom
- Refitted Bathroom
- Dressing room
- Viewing

£395,000

HUNTINGTON
ROWAN CLOSE

- Detached Family Home
- Through Hallway
- Guest WC, Lounge
- Conservatory
- Impressive Kitchen/Diner
- 4 Bedrooms.

£220,000

CANNOCK
DEVON ROAD

- Semi Detached
- Through hall
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- 3 Dbl Beds
- Bathroom
- Garage
- No Chain

£124,950

NORTON CANES
BEAUMONT WAY

- Detached Family Home
- Entrance Hall. Lounge.
- Dining Room, Kitchen
- Utility, Guest WC
- Conservatory.

£235,000

GREAT WYRLEY
WALSALL ROAD

- Detached Dorma Bungalow
- Through Hallway
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- 2 Conservatories
- 3 Bedrooms. Garage

£309,950

HEDNESFORD
PENDLE HILL

- Renovated Property
- Porch, Hallway
- Lounge
- New Kitchen
- Bathroom, Shower Room
- Downstairs Shower Room.

£190,000

HEATH HAYES
HODNET PLACE

- Detached Family Home,
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining Room.
- Conservatory,
- Fitted Kitchen,
- Utility Room, Guest WC.

£209,950

REDUCED

CANNOCK
LOCKSIDE

- Stunning Semi
- Hall, WC
- Fabulous Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- En-suite
- Family Bathroom
- Driveway
- Viewing

£190,000

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

- Stunning Family Home
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Refitted Kitchen
- Utility Room, WC
- 3 Bedrooms
- Refitted Bathroom

£184,950

CANNOCK
ULLSWATER PLACE

- Spacious Detached
- Through Hallway, WC
- Dining Room.
- Lounge/Diner
- Study Area
- Refitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms.

£239,950

"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"

Fantastic choice of both two and three-bed semi-detacheds

FROM £134,995
WILLENHALL <<<

A fantastic choice of both two and three bedroomed semi-detached property on the newly built Cherry Orchard development in Primary Close, Willenhall are available to buy.

They are being marketed by L&S Prestige Estates with prices from £134,995 for a two-bedroomed property and from £154,995 for a three bedroomed version.

The three-bedroomed ones have accommodation that briefly comprises an entrance hall, a guest WC, a spacious lounge/diner and a modern fitted kitchen. To the first floor there are three well proportioned bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property also has double glazing and gas central heating.

Outside are gardens and an off road parking space.

Call L&S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 or visit www.prestige-estatesuk.com

A well-maintained two-bed town house

WILLENHALL
£110,000

Perfect for a first time buyer or investor, this well maintained two bedroom town house in Drancy Avenue, Willenhall, lies in a highly regarded location.

It is for sale through Paul Dubberley at £110,000.

It is close to major transport links, shopping and recreational facilities and more importantly within the catchment area of local schools.

This two bedroomed property's accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway, a large lounge/diner, a modern kitchen, downstairs WC, two double bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property also benefits from double glazing, gas central heating and private rear gardens. The rear garden is low maintenance.

Contact Paul Dubberley on 01902 633323.

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CANNOCK
CEMETERY ROAD

Unfurnished	Gas Central
Terrace House	Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Rear Garden
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D
Bathroom	

£595 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HUNTINGTON
OAKLANDS CLOSE

Unfurnished	3 Bedrooms
Semi Detached	Bathroom
House	GCH & DG
Lounge	Garden
Dining Area	Garage
Kitchen	EPC Rating C

£575 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

Unfurnished	3 Bedrooms
Semi Detached	Bathroom
House	En Suite
Lounge	GCH & DG
Dining Room	EPC Rating D
Kitchen	

£550 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
REMBRANDT CLOSE

Unfurnished	GCH & DG
Town House	Garden
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating C
2 Bedrooms	
Bathroom	

£550 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

RAWNSLEY
RAWNSLEY ROAD

Unfurnished	Bathroom
Terrace House	Gas Central
Lounge	Heating
Dining Room	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Rear Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D

£550 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
BEECH TREE COURT

Unfurnished	Gas Central
Ground Floor Flat	Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Allocated Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C
Bathroom	

£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

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ARLA

WALSALL
MOORSIDE GARDENS

Unfurnished	Gas Central
2nd Floor Flat	Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C
Bathroom	

£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
CANNOCK ROAD

Unfurnished	Gas Central
First Floor Flat	Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Allocated Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C
Bathroom	

£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
REMBRANDT CLOSE

Unfurnished	Heating
First Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating C
1 Bedroom	
Bathroom	

£420 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BRIDGTOWN
UNION STREET

Unfurnished	Heating
First Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating E
1 Bedroom	
Bathroom	

£395 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
SQUIRREL CLOSE

Unfurnished	GCH & DG
Detached House	Conservatory
Lounge	Garden
Kitchen	Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating E
Bathroom	

£695 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
WOOTTONS COURT

Unfurnished	Electric Heating
Terrace House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D
Bathroom	

£480 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

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HEATH HAYES
MILL CRESCENT
NEW

- Immaculate Three Bedroom
- Modern fitted kithcen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Master with En-suite
- Study/playroom
- Ample parking
- Enclosed rear garden
- Waiting EPC rating

£164,995

CANNOCK
PENNINE DRIVE
NEW

- Spacious Three bedroom Detached
- Gas central heating, double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Conservatory
- Kitchen, utility
- Family bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- Driveway and garage
- EPC rating D

£239,950

HUNTINGTON
VIOLET CLOSE
NEW

- A modern two bedroom apartment
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Lounge/diner
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- EPC rating B

£45,000 40% SHARE

HEATH HAYES
HOBBY WAY
NEW

- Two bedroom apartment
- Ideal first time buy
- Open plan lounge
- Modern fitted Kitchen
- Entrance Hallway
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Popular location
- Allocated parking
- Awaiting EPC rating

£114,950

CHESLYN HAY
WOOD GREEN
NEW PRICE

- Three bedroom detached
- Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area
- Extended Lounge
- Dining Room
- Three good size bedrooms
- Family bathroom, WC
- Garage & driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating
- Cul-de-sac location

£175,000

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

- Stunning three bedroom detached
- Fully reburbished to high standard
- Modern family bathroom and en-suite
- Modern fitted kitchen and utility
- Good size bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/dinner
- Viewing HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- Awaiting EPC rating
- NO CHAIN

£269,950

CANNOCK
HATHERTON CROFT

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Sought after location
- Re-fitted breakfast kitchen
- Guest WC, Utility, Study
- Conservatory, Gallery landing
- Family bathroom, En-suite
- Double Garage
- Lounge, Dining room
- EPC rating D

£359,950

CANNOCK
ST JOHNS CLOSE

- An individual 4 bedroom detached
- New build, GCH/DG
- Lounge, Kitchen/diner
- Family bathroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Enclosed rear garden
- Driveway to fore
- Cannock Centre location
- Viewing highly recommended

£269,950

HEATH HAYES
SALISBURY DRIVE

- Four bedroom detached
- Re-fitted kitchen
- Re-fitted bathroom & En-suite
- Lounge,Dining room
- Conservatory, Study
- Garage, Driveway
- Private enclosed garden
- Early viewing essential
- Awaiting EPC rating

£249,950

CANNOCK
DEVON ROAD

- Ground floor apartment
- Walking distance to town centre
- One bedroom
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Rear garden
- Ideal investment

£56,995

HEDNESFORD
STAFFORD LANE

- A unique 3 bedroom bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Dining room
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Good sized rear gaarden
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£160,000

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

- A traditional two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family sized bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- EPC rating E

£125,000

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PROPERTY

Superb extended semi in delightful village setting

This superbly presented and extended semi-detached detached property in the delightful village of Longdon in Church Way, is for sale through JR Properties at £259,950 with no chain.

Internally there are three bedrooms, a lounge, a superb kitchen/living/dining area to rear, a refitted bathroom and private gardens.

LONGDON

£259,950

In more detail it has a porch with tiled flooring, a lounge with sliding doors to the breakfast kitchen, an inner hallway with stairs to the first floor and a guest WC. The breakfast kitchen is L-shaped, having white high gloss wall and base mounted units with work surfaces over, incorporating an acrylic sink, a built in double electric oven with a halogen hob and extractor hood over, integrated dishwasher, washing machine and tumble dryer

There are inset ceiling lights, three designer radiators and Velux windows to the roof.

Call 01889 577731 or visit www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

A refurbished cottage in a pretty location by the canal

BRERETON

£165,000 >>>

Positioned with a canal-side location is this delightful refurbished mid-terraced cottage in Armitage Road, Brereton, has been refurbished by the current owners as part of a redevelopment scheme.

With three bedrooms, it is for sale through C Residential at £165,000. It has an entrance hall with ceramic tiled flooring and a return staircase off, a galley kitchen with a range of modern units, electric hob with extractor hood over and electric oven, and a beamed ceiling, a lounge with a multi-fuel log burner, two first floor bedrooms and a bathroom, a second floor landing, bedroom three/attic room, a shared driveway, parking and a garage.

Call 01889 583377.

January 2017

Thinking of moving starts at Christmas, with the New Year being one of the busiest times for the housing market.

With a high volume of online activity over the festive period, Save The Date and get yourself ready for your 2017 move.

Take advantage of our December offer and we will promote your property over the festive period and line up viewings ready for January.

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BOOT & SON

Independent Chartered Surveyors
Established 1919

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for all Property Matters

198 LONGFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

THREE BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE
Located In Much Sought After Residential Area of The Town

- Reception hall
- Lounge and dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Built-On Garage
- Gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Predominantly double glazed
- EPC rating tbc

£245,000 FREEHOLD

121 HIGH MOUNT STREET, HEDNESFORD

CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED END TERRACED HOUSE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED FOR FACILITIES AT HEDNESFORD TOWN CENTRE

- Lounge/dining area
- Refitted kitchen
- Landing
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- No chain
- EPC rating D (55)

£99,950 FREEHOLD

18 TUDOR WAY, CHESLYN HAY

CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED WELL EQUIPPED FAMILY RESIDENCE
Located In Sought After Cul-De-Sac

- Lounge & family room
- Dining room & games room
- Dining kitchen & utility room
- Cloakroom with wc
- Five bedrooms
- Three en-suite shower rooms
- Family bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating: D (62)

£425,000 FREEHOLD

PERAMA, 83 OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK

CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED DETACHED HOUSE OFFERING 5 BEDROOMED FAMILY ACCOMMODATION
Located In a Prime Residential Area of the Town Close to the Shoal Hill District of Cannock Chase and Facilities at the Town Centre

- Entrance lobby and hall
- Cloakroom and study
- Lounge and dining area
- L Shaped breakfast kitchen
- 5 bedrooms
- Two bathrooms
- Integral garage and off road parking
- Gas fired central heating
- Predominantly double glazed
- EPC rating tbc

£445,000 FREEHOLD

FLAT 23 ROWAN CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

EXTREMELY WELL APPOINTED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
Located In Popular Residential Area

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Dining kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Allocated parking space
- Inspection highly recommended
- EPC rating B (81)

£109,950

47 SANDY LANE, CANNOCK

IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Much Sought After Residential Area Close To The Shoal Hill District Of Cannock Chase And Overlooking Greenbelt Farmland To The Front

- Lounge/dining area
- Double glazed conservatory
- Kitchen
- Lobby and shower room with WC
- Four bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Integral garage (limited length)
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating E (47)

£239,950 FREEHOLD

103 STAFFORD STREET, HEATH HAYES

THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Popular Position Convenient For Facilities at the Village Centre

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Integral garage
- Gardens
- All windows double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- EPC rating tbc

£146,950

70 ST JOHNS ROAD, CANNOCK

WELL PRESENTED TWO BEDROOMED MID MEWS HOUSE
Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre

- Lounge & dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room & ground floor WC
- Two double bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Gardens
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- No chain
- EPC rating D (58)

£122,500 FREEHOLD

FLAT 27 THE HEATH, CANNOCK ROAD, HEATH HAYES

GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT
Located In Popular Development Convenient For Facilities At Heath Hayes Centre

- Reception Hall
- Lounge with fitted kitchen area
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Communal grounds
- Allocated parking area
- Electric heating
- Fully double glazed
- Security phone system
- EPC rating C (78)

£113.950

5B HEATHER MEWS, HEDNESFORD

DETACHED BUNGALOW LOCATED IN ESTABLISHED RESIDENTIAL AREA
Convenient for Cannock, Hednesford and The Chase

- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Principal bathroom and ensuite
- Front and rear gardens
- Garage
- Fully double glazed & gas central heating
- EPC rating D (61)

£189,950

HIGHFIELDS GARDENS

Welcome Home

HIGH MOUNT STREET, HEDNESFORD, WS12 4BN (WITH ACCESS BETWEEN 93 AND 97)

The Helmsley
Plot 12

PHASE III OF WELL EQUIPPED TWO AND FOUR BEDROOMED HOMES
Being built as part of a private owner/occupier development of 22 dwellings

Well Equipped Four Bedroom Mews House
PRICE: £234,950 FREEHOLD

EPC Rating B (82)
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Help to Buy

VIEW HOME AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
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67 APPLE WALK, HEATH HAYES

IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED ONE BEDROOMED MEWS HOUSE OFFERING EASY TO MAINTAIN ACCOMMODATION OVERLOOKING PUBLIC OPEN SPACENATURE RESERVE TO FRONT
Conveniently Located For Facilities

- Double glazed enclosed porch
- Lounge
- Refitted kitchen area
- Bedroom
- Refitted bathroom
- Allocated parking space
- Well maintained foregarden
- Fully double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- EPC rating C (75)

£103,950 LEASEHOLD

24 ORCHARD AVENUE, CANNOCK

TWO BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW OCCUPYING WELL STOCKED LARGER GARDENS
Located In Cul-De-Sac In Much Sought After Residential Area of the Town Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre and Access to Cannock Chase

- Side entrance hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage
- Well stocked gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating tbc

£167,950 FREEHOLD

3 CHARLEMONTE CLOSE, HEDNESFORD

RECENTLY REFURBISHED THREE BEDROOM MID TERRACE HOUSELocated In Popular Residential Area

- Enclosed porch
- Dining area
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed & gas central heating
- Garage in court
- Off road parking to front
- EPC rating D (56)

£129,950 FREEHOLD

11 DARTMOUTH ROAD, CANNOCK

THREE BEDROOMED DETACHED HOUSE BUILT IN THE POPULAR INTER WAR PERIOD
Located In Much Sought After Residential Area of The Town Convenient For Access To Facilities at the Town Centre

- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- Built On Garage
- Predominantly double glazed
- Gas fired central heating
- EPC rating E (51)

£229,950 FREEHOLD

76 HEATH STREET, HEDNESFORD

WELL EQUIPPED THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMED DETACHED CHALET STYLE HOUSE
Located In Popular Position Convenient For Facilities at Cannock and Hednesford and Near To Cannock Chase An Area Noted For Its Outstanding Natural Beauty

- Side reception hall
- Lounge
- Breakfast kitchen
- Three double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Integral garage
- Well stocked gardens
- Gas fired central heating
- Fully double glazed
- EPC rating tbc

£186,950 FREEHOLD

RICS

01543 50 54 54
19 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 1DG
Fax: 01543 466913 Email: info@bootandson.co.uk Web:www.bootandson.co.uk

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17 PILLATON DRIVE, HUNTINGTON

DETACHED THREE BEDROOM HOUSE
Located In Popular Cul-de-sac

- Lounge/dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Family bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS allowed
- EPC rating: D (64)

£795 pcm

9 BEECH TREE COURT, BEECH TREE LANE, CANNOCK

WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Convenient For Cannock Town Centre

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Allocated parking space
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: tbc

£495 pcm

45 NORTON TERRACE, NORTON CANES

UNDER APPLICATION

DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS WELL PRESENTED ONE BEDROOM MID TOWN HOUSE
Located In Popular Residential Area

- Lounge
- Dining kitchen
- Double bedroom
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Off road parking
- Garden to front
- Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- EPC rating: C (71)

£450 pcm

34 CHASELEY AVENUE, CANNOCK

SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Cul-de-sac In Sought After Shoal Hill Area

- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room
- Three bedrooms
- Shower room
- Built-on garage
- Off road parking
- Sorry no DSS, smokers or pets allowed
- EPC rating: C (69)

£625 pcm

4 SCHOOL PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE

WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION
Situted On The Picturesque Rural Estate Of Teddesley Park

- Fitted dining kitchen
- Inner hall
- Lounge
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Oil fired central heating
- Landscaped communal grounds
- Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- EPC rating: C (69)

£625 pcm (plus Service Charge)

3 OAKDENE CLOSE, HEDNESFORD

WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE

- Cloakroom with WC
- Lounge
- Dining kitchen
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room & family bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Integral garage
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: C (77)

£895 pcm

20 LOVE LANE PARK HOMES, LOVE LANE, RUGELEY

UNDER APPLICATION

NEWLY REFURBISHED ONE BEDROOM PARK HOME SITUATED IN WELL MAINTAINED DEVELOPMENT
Convenient For local Facilities

- Entrance hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Double bedrooms
- Shower room
- LPG central heating & fully double glazed
- Garden/decked terrace
- Secure parking
- For persons agred 50 and over
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS

£480pcm

195A CANNOCK ROAD, CHADSMOOR

REFURBISHED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT

- Entrance lobby
- Hall
- Lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Double glazed
- Electric heating
- Off road parking
- Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS allowed
- EPC rating: tbc

£395pcm

2 DAIRY COTTAGE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE

A UNIQUE GRADE II LISTED TWO BEDROOM BARN CONVERSION
Located On The Picturesque Estate of Teddesley Park

- Entrance lobby
- Lounge & dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room & cloakroom with WC
- Two bedrooms
- Shower room
- Oil fired central heating
- Communal parking & gardens
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating tbc

£600pcm

12 BIRCH TREE LANE, PEAR TREE ESTATE, RUGELEY

REFURBISHED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

- Reception hall
- Two reception rooms
- Refitted kitchen
- Utility room and cloakroom
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating tbc

£550 pcm

4 RICKYARD PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE

TWO BEDROOM BARN CONVERSION
Located On The Picturesque Country Estate of Teddesley Park

- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Landing
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Oil fired central heating
- Enclosed foregarden
- Communal grounds & parking
- Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS allowed
- EPC rating B (82)

£595pcm

1 SPINDLEWOOD CLOSE, HEATH HAYES

TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Sought After Residential Area

- Lounge
- Dining room
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- Off road parking
- Gardens
- Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS
- EPC rating: D (63)

£600pcm

64 SWEETBRIAR WAY, HEATH HAYES

REFURBISHED SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOM MID MEWS HOUSE
Located In Sought After Residential Area

- Lounge
- Dining kitchen
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Off road parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: C (73)

£675pcm

6 LOVE LANE PARK HOMES, LOVE LANE, RUGELEY

NEWLY REFURBISHED ONE BEDROOM PARK HOME SITUATED IN WELL MAINTAINED PARK HOME DEVELOPMENT
Convenient For Facilities Locally

- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Shower room
- Bedroom
- Off road parking
- Gardens & decked terrace
- LPG central heating
- Fully double glazed
- For persons aged 50 and over
- Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers

£435.00 pcm

39 TOWER VIEW ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY

SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT

- Entrance hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Shower room
- Fully double glazed
- Electric heating
- Communal grounds and parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: D (63)

£475 pcm

45 LONG LANE, NEWTOWN

REFURBISHED SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOWLocated In Sought After Area With Farmland To Rear

- Lounge
- Refitted kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom
- Separate WC
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Large gardens
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: D (66)

£875 pcm

3 CORNWALL ROAD, HEDNESFORD

WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Popular Residential Area Of The Town Covenient For Facilities At The Town Centre

- Recessed porch area & Reception hall
- Lounge with kitchen area
- Two double bedrooms
- Wet room shower room
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Carport
- Easy to maintain gardens
- Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating D (60)

£650pcm

4 LANCASTER HOUSE, HEATH HAYES

ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT

- Entrance lobby
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Electric heating
- All windows double glazed
- Sorry No smokers or pets
- DSS considered
- EPC rating tbc

£395 pcm

44 ROWLEY CLOSE, HEDNESFORD

THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Adjoining Cannock Chase To The Rear

- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Separate WC
- Gas central heating
- Fully double glazed
- DSS considered
- Sorry no pets or smokers
- EPC rating: G (15)

£120pw

BEAUMONT HOUSE, 3 MARTIN GROVE, HILTON LANE, GREAT WYRLEY

LOCATED IN POPULAR AREA WITHIN AN EXCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Cloakroom with WC
- Sitting room & dining room
- Study & family room
- Kitchen & utility room
- Five bedrooms
- Three en-suites
- Family bathroom
- Gas central heating & fully double glazed
- Gardens & double garage
- EPC rating: C (76)

£1350pcm

5 WOODFORD WAY, HEATH HAYES

TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Located In Sought After Residential Area

- Entrance hall
- Lounge
- Dining kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- All windows double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Off road parking
- Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- EPC rating: tbc

£585pcm

12 SAM BARBER COURT, HEATH HAYES

IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT
Located In Popular Residential Area

- Entrance lobby
- Lounge
- Refitted kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Economy 7 electric heating
- Fully double glazed
- Communal grounds & allocated parking
- Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- EPC rating D (68)

£465pcm

200A BLOXWICH ROAD, WALSALL

SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT

- Entrance hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed
- Off road parking
- Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- EPC rating: D (67)

£450 pcm

2 TEDDESLEY HOUSE, CLAY STREET, PENKRIDGE

WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT
Conveniently Located For Facilities Of The Centre Of The Popular Market Village of Penkridge

- Communal hall, stairs & landing
- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Ensuite shower room & bathroom
- Allocated parking space
- Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- Intruder alarm & Security phone system
- EPC rating C (74)

£575pcm

22 ROWLEY CLOSE, HEDNESFORD

REFURBISHED THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE

- Lounge
- Breakfast kitchen
- Utility room
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom & separate WC
- Fully double glazed
- Gas central heating
- Gardens
- Sorry no pets or smokers
- EPC rating: D (62)

£525 pcm

RICS

01543 50 54 54
19 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 1DG
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NEW

CHASELEY ROAD
ETCHINGHILL

A traditional extended four bedroomed detached family home in a sought after location. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazing. Through Hallway, Two Reception Rooms, Breakfast Kitchen, Inner Hallway and Utility Room. First Floor Landing, Four Bedrooms, Family Bathroom and Shower Room. Garage with Driveway offering off road parking for several vehicles. Large Garden with views over Cannock Chase, an area of outstanding natural beauty. EPC Rating - E

£430,000

RAVENHILL CLOSE
BRERETON

A three bedroomed mid terraced property offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Entrance Porch, Through Hallway, Downstairs W.C., Kitchen/Diner, Utility and Lounge. First Floor Landing, Three good sized bedrooms and Shower Room. Gas Central Heating and part UPVC Double Glazing. Drive with Off Road Parking and Garden to Rear. EPC RATING - C

£125,000

NEW

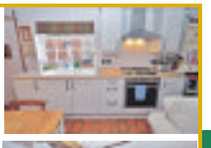
NO CHAIN

LOVETT COURT, RUGELEY

A spacious mid terraced property ideal for investment or a first time buyer offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazing. Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge/Diner and Kitchen. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to Front and Rear. EPC Rating E

£99,950

NEW



CROSSLEY STONE COTTAGE, RUGELEY

A well presented traditional Grade II listed one bedroomed cottage located within the Town Centre close to local amenities. Benefiting from gas central heating the accommodation comprises of an open plan Kitchen/Lounge and Dining Room. Stair case to Bedroom and Bathroom. There is a small Courtyard fore garden. EPC RATING - E

£105,000

NO CHAIN

LODGE ROAD
BRERETON

A spacious extended family home situated in popular residential area within walking distance to local amenities. Enclosed Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, extended Dining Room and Kitchen. First Floor landing with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garden to front with small courtyard garden to rear. Full Length Garage with workshop and outbuildings. EPC RATING - E

£155,000

Our Christmas/New Year Opening Hours are as follows:

Thursday 22nd December 2016
closing at 1.00pm

Reopening
Tuesday 3rd January 2017
at 9.00am

Angi, Diane and The Teams wish all our clients a very

Happy Christmas

and a **Happy New Year**

See you all in 2017

NO CHAIN

LOWER BIRCHES WAY
RUGELEY

A well presented modern two bedroomed mid terraced property, ideal for a first time buyer or for investment and is being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazed. Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Guest W.C. and Lounge. First Floor Landing, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Two Allocated Parking Spaces and Garden. EPC Rating - C

£130,000

BRINKBURN CLOSE, ETCHINGHILL

A four bedroomed link-detached located in a popular location close to local schools. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Downstairs WC. Downstairs Bedroom. First Floor Landing with Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to front providing off-road parking with enclosed garden to rear. EPC RATING - D

£209,995

STOCKINGS LANE, LONGDON

A three bedroomed semi detached in a sought after village location. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazing. The accommodation comprises of Through Hallway, Lounge and Kitchen/Diner. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms, Shower Room and Separate W.C. Garage with Off Road Parking. Gardens to Front and Rear. EPC RATING - C

£170,000

ST MICHAELS ROAD
BRERETON

A three bedroomed semi detached property in a sought after location. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazing. Entrance Hall, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Detached Garage with Parking. Gardens to Front and Rear. EPC RATING - D

£130,000

Globe House, Upper Brook Street, Rugeley, WS15 2DN
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THOMPSON ROAD BRERETON

A three bedroomed semi detached property in a popular location offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazing. Comprising of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner and Kitchen. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms and Shower Room. Detached Garage and Off Road Parking. Gardens to Front and Rear. EPC RATING - D

£149,950

COULTHWAITE WAY RUGELEY

Selection of spacious ground and first floor apartments within a new development, refurbished to a high standard. Entrance Hall spacious open plan Lounge/Kitchen with some appliances. Bathroom with shower over bath. Two Bedrooms. Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating. Allocated parking space. IMAGES FOR GENERAL GUIDANCE ONLY

£575 pcm

OLS SCHOOL MEWS MAIN ROAD

Modern First Floor Apartment in sought after location. Entrance hall with stairs leading to Lounge, Kitchen with some appliances, Bathroom and Double Bedroom. Allocated Parking.
NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating C
DEPOSIT £623

£525 pcm

CHESTER ROAD RUGELEY

3 BEDROOMED END TERRACED PROPERTY

FULL DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

CALL OUR SALES TEAM FOR MORE INFORMATION ON 01889 583377

£152,500

GORSTEY LEA BURNTWOOD

Spacious detached property in desirable location, comprises of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Dining Kitchen with some appliances, Guest Cloaks. Four Bedrooms and Bathroom, En-suite to Master bedroom. Garage with driveway parking. Gardens to front and rear.
NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating tbc
DEPOSIT £1377

£995 pcm

CHICHESTER CLOSE RUGELEY

Modern Townhouse in sought after location. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Guest Cloaks. Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. GCH and DG. Gardens to front and rear. VIEWING RECOMMENDED
NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating C
DEPOSIT £720

£550 pcm

OLD EATON ROAD RUGELEY

In need of some modernisation this good sized three bedroomed semi detached property in a popular and sought after location is offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Entrance Porch, Through Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen (installation required) and Dining Room. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garage and Off Road Parking. Garden to Front and Rear. EPC RATING - D

£160,000

SCHOLARS GATE, BRERETON

A well presented three bedroomed semi detached family home in a popular location. Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing. Entrance Hallway, Lounge and Kitchen/Diner. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garage and Off Road Parking. Garden to Front and Rear. Viewing Recommended. EPC RATING - D

£162,500

TALBOT STREET RUGELEY

Mid terraced property close to town centre benefiting from double glazing. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen with some appliances. Ground floor re-fitted Shower Room. Two Double Bedrooms. Courtyard garden to rear. VIEWING RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS. EPC Rating G
DEPOSIT £637

£460 pcm

HERON STREET RUGELEY

Ground floor flat comprising of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen with some appliances. Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Off road parking. Garden area to front. VIEWING RECOMMENDED.
NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating C
DEPOSIT £637

£460 pcm

CHURCH STREET, RUGELEY

A newly built four bedroom detached family home within walking distance to the Town Centre and local amenities is being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing. The accommodation comprising of Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge and Kitchen/Diner. First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom with Ensuite, Three Additional Bedrooms and

£264,995

FRANK GEE CLOSE RUGELEY

A well presented three bedroomed mid terraced property. Gas Central Heating and UPVC Double Glazing. Entrance Hall, Breakfast Kitchen, Lounge and W.C. First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garden. EPC Rating - C

£123,000

HOWELL MEWS WOLSELEY ROAD

Modern apartment benefiting from security entrance system, Electric Heating and Double Glazing. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, open plan Lounge/Kitchen with some appliances. Two Bedrooms and Bathroom with En-suite to Master Bedroom. Allocated Parking. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.
NO DSS. NO SMOKERS. NO PETS.

£535 pcm

BUSH DRIVE RUGELEY

A well presented semi-detached property in desirable cul-de-sac location. Entrance Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen. Utility Room and Guest Cloakroom. Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Second Floor Storage Room with Shower Room. Large gardens to rear. Off-Road parking and Garage. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC rating D
DEPOSIT £968

£699 pcm

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Goldhayfields Farm
RUGELEY

Five bedroom detached farmhouse / Breakfast kitchen / Five double bedrooms / Separate utility area / Large en-suite / EPC: F

£650,000

Upper Landywood Lane
CHESLYN HAY

Immaculately Presented Four Bedroom Detached House / Large Plot 1/4 Acre in Size / Several Spacious Reception Rooms / Large Private & Secluded Rear Garden

£650,000

Station Street
CHESLYN HAY

Spacious six bedroom Victorian character property / Set on a large & extremely private plot / Superb separate annexe / Driveway with ample parking for several vehicles

Offers in Excess of £500,000

Jacobs Hall Lane
GREAT WYRLEY

Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Sought after location / Tastefully decorated and finished to a high standard / Several spacious receptions rooms

Offers in Excess of £450,000

The Old Rectory
RUGELEY

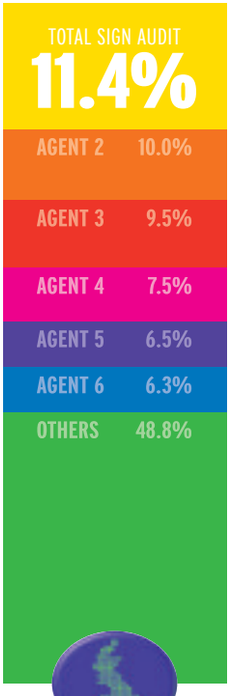
Immaculately Presented Five Bedroom Barn Style Property / Sought After Village Location / Spacious Reception & Bedrooms / Delightful Countryside Views / High Spec Kitchen With Integrated Appliances

Offers in the Region Of £445,000

Littleworth Road
RAWNSLEY

Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C

Offers in Excess of £420,000



*LOVETT & CO WAS THE ESTATE AGENT WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF FOR SALE AND SOLD SIGNS DISPLAYED BETWEEN THE DATES SHOWN. THIS IS THE AVERAGE RESULT OF THESE SURVEYS.

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For Sale Sign Analysis confirms that this advert is a fair and accurate representation of the information found between the dates shown. The quantity of For Sale and Sold signs does not necessarily equate to the number of completions.

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forsale SIGN ANALYSIS

SUPPLIERS OF INDEPENDENT MARKET SHARE REPORTS THROUGHOUT ENGLAND AND WALES

The Meadows
CANNOCK

Executive Five Bedroom Detached Family Home / Large Reception Style Conservatory / Finished To A High Specification Throughout / Stunning Open Plan Dining Kitchen / Five Double Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £370,000

Wood Lane
CANNOCK

Impressive five bedroom detached dormer style house / Tastefully decorated throughout / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Large reception style conservatory / Detached garage / Drive for

Offers in the Region Of £345,000

Lion Street
RUGELEY

Spacious and truly unique character property / Potentially seven bedrooms / High ceilings & original fireplaces throughout / High ceilings & original fireplaces throughout

Offers in the Region Of £300,000

Berwyn Grove
CHESLYN HAY

Deceptively Two/Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow / Well Appointed Bathroom Suite / Double Bedrooms / Large Rear Garden With Gazebo And Hot Tub / Spacious Reception Rooms

£290,000

Bower Lane
ETCHING HILL

Exclusive four bedroom detached property / Set back from main road & on private street / Generous corner plot position / Large rear garden / Driveway with parking for three vehicles / Two en-suites

Offers in Excess of £290,000

Walsall Road
GREAT WYRLEY

Well presented four bedroom detached house / Private gated driveway / Rear garden / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Study, utility & WC / Four bedrooms, three of which are doubles ●

£285,000

Wolverhampton Road
CANNOCK

Four bedroom character property with a unique bespoke design / Spacious accommodation throughout / Large lounge with feature Inglenook fireplace

Offers in Excess of £280,000

Strauss Drive
HEATH HAYES

Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Sought after location / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern breakfast kitchen

£265,000

Waterlily Close
WIMBLEBURY

Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Good sized corner plot / Quiet sought after cul-de-sac. / Re-fitted open plan breakfast kitchen / Driveway with ample parking

Offers in Excess of £260,000

Dartmouth Avenue
CANNOCK

Three bedroom detached house / Sought after location / Finished to a good modern standard / Spacious living and sleeping accommodation / Superb open plan lounge-diner

Offers in the Region Of £255,000

Elizabethan Way
RUGELEY

Five bedroom detached house / Stunning views of the countryside to the rear / Spacious reception rooms & bedrooms / Spacious reception rooms & bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £250,000

Chasewater Way
NORTON CANES

Well presented four bedroom detached house / Sought after cul-de-sac location / Stunning large rear conservatory / Good sized private rear garden / Private driveway for two cars plus garage

£245,000

Bond Way
HEDNESFORD

Immaculately presented executive detached family home / Good sized corner plot in a sought after area / Finished to a high standard / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation

£230,000

Bank Street
HEATH HAYES

Four bedroom detached character property / Full refurbishment throughout / Spacious open plan kitchen diner with high spec fitted units / Four double bedrooms

Offers in the Region Of £230,000

Nelson Drive
HEDNESFORD

Three bedroom detached bungalow / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Driveway providing off road parking

£230,000

Tel: 01543 889410 **www.lovettco.co.uk**

Lovett & Co. estate agents

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* terms and conditions apply

Haymaker Way
WIMBLEBURY

Immaculately Presented Three Bedroom Detached House / Spacious Reception Rooms / Modern Breakfast Kitchen / Large Master Bedroom With En-Suite / Driveway For Three Vehicles

£225,000

Edwards Croft
CANNOCK

Two bedroom detached bungalow / Private and exclusive cul-de-sac only three other properties / Private secluded landscaped rear garden / Modern open plan kitchen-diner

£190,000

Sharon Way
HEDNESFORD

Three bedroom detached house / Superb open plan kitchen-diner / Good sized bedrooms / Private rear garden

Offers in the Region Of £185,000

Pheasant Way
HEATH HAYES

Three Bedroom Mid Terraced Town House / Set Over Three Storeys / Sought After Area With Pleasant Green To Front / Finished To A Good Modern Standard / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation

Offers in Excess of £170,000

Plantation Road
HEDNESFORD

NO ONWARD CHAIN & VACANT POSSESSION / Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Set on large end plot backing onto Cannock chase / New central heating system / Spacious living &

£170,000

Meadowbrook Close
HEDNESFORD

Three bedroom semi detached house / Sought after modern residential area / Two allocated parking spaces / Modern fitted kitchen / Private rear garden / Good sized open plan lounge-diner

£155,000

WHY PAY MORE WHEN YOU CAN PAY LESS !

THE SAVINGS YOU WILL MAKE

Sale Price Achieved	Standard Estate Agents Fee@ 2.16 Inc Vat	Lovett & Co Estate Agent Fee @ 0.9% Inc Vat	The Savings YOU will make with Lovett & Co
£105,000	£2268	£997	£1271
£150,000	£3240	£1425	£1815
£200,000	£4320	£1900	£2420
£300,000	£6480	£2850	£3630
£500,000	£10,800	£4750	£6050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @ 2.16% Inc Vat: Source. Rightmove (December 2014)

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Cotswold Close
HEDNESFORD

Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Useful side annexe / Spacious lounge / Charming private rear garden

Offers in the Region Of £150,000

Westbourne Avenue
CANNOCK

Immaculately presented three bedroom semi-detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Victorian conservatory / Modern newly fitted dining kitchen & bathroom / Driveway providing off road parking

Offers in the Region Of £150,000

Dovedale
CANNOCK

Three bedroom semi detached house / Good sized plot with the potential to extend / Spacious living and sleeping accommodation / Open plan dining kitchen

£146,950

Pinewood Avenue
CANNOCK

Three bedroom semi detached house / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Modern fitted kitchen and bathroom / Oversized garage and driveway providing off road parking

£145,000

Railway Street
CANNOCK

Three/four bedroom semi detached house / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / kitchen/diner / Private rear garden

Offers in Excess of £140,000

Chapel Street
HEATH HAYES

Semi detached character property / Large rear garden ideal for entertaining / Modern breakfast kitchen and bathroom / Two double bedrooms with w/c to the master

£140,000

Hednesford Road
NORTON CANES

Two bedroom character property / Fantastic semi rural location / Rolling views of the countryside to the front & rear / Newly modern fitted kitchen & bathroom

£140,000

Scholars Close
HUNTINGTON

NO ONWARD CHAIN & VACANT POSSESSION / Immaculately presented two bedroom mid terraced house / Quiet modern cul-de-sac location / Good sized private rear garden / Spacious lounge-diner / Modern

£130,000

Hednesford Street
CANNOCK

Four bedroom traditional mid terrace house / Spacious accommodation / Good sized fourth bedroom to attic with en-suite bathroom / On street parking to front & private rear garden

£125,000

Anglesey Street
HEDNESFORD

Two Bedroom End Terraced House / Stunning Communal Gardens / Exclusive Private Mews Development / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Modern Kitchen & Bathroom

£125,000

Hindley View
RUGELEY

Unique & Immaculately Presented Two Bedroom First Floor Duplex Apartment / Exclusive Private Development / Finished To A Good Modern Standard / Open Plan Dining Kitchen

Offers in the Region Of £120,000

Bath Road
CANNOCK

Well presented two bedroom semi-detached house / modern fitted kitchen and bathroom / spacious accommodation / private rear garden / parking for two vehicles / NO ONWARD CHAIN

Offers in Excess of £120,000

Broad Street
BRIDGTOWN

Traditional two bedroom mid terraced house / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen and bathroom / Good sized private rear garden

£115,000

Longacres
HEDNESFORD

First floor maisonette / Quiet cul-de-sac / Solid oak flooring / Modern kitchen & shower room / Single garage and driveway

Offers in the Region Of £80,000

Arran Close
CANNOCK

Two bedroom ground floor apartment / Property is being sold with a sitting tenant / Rental income of £495 PCM / Exciting investment opportunity / Spacious lounge

£75,000

Stagborough Way
HEDNESFORD

Well presented one bedroom front to back end terraced house / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Fitted kitchen & bathroom / Spacious double bedroom / Open plan ground floor living space / Front garden

Offers in the Region Of £70,000

Lupin Drive
HUNTINGTON

Well presented modern two bedroom first floor apartment / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Available for 40% shared ownership / lounge-diner & kitchen / Allocated parking & communal gardens

Shared Ownership £42,000

Price Street
CANNOCK

One Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment / Secure Warden Controlled Property / Communal Laundry Area & Residents Lounge / Lift Rising To All Floors / Off Road Parking

Shared Ownership £28,000

Tel: 01543 889410 **www.lovettco.co.uk**

JR PROPERTIES

"Serving Rugeley

enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com
www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

Priory Avenue, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this modern well presented detached family home,being situated on the Hawksyard Estate. Having Hallway, Guest W.C, Breakfast Kitchen and Lounge. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Two further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Garden

£205,000

Station Road. Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three storey family home, being situated close to town centre. Gas Central Heating. Accommodation having Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge and Dining Room. Bedroom and Bathroom with stairs to Bedroom Two. Garden to rear and NO CHAIN

£124,950

Rangers Walk, Etching Hill

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented three bedroom link detached home, situated in a quiet cul de sac,close to local amenities. Having Hallway, Guest w.c, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Utility. Landing,Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway and Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN

£194,950

Fortescue Lane, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this immaculate two bedroom traditional terraced property situated in the town centre. Accommodation comprises Entrance Hallway, Lounge/ Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Good sized Garden to rear

£141,995

St Thomas Way, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this modern two bedroom semi detached house situated on the popular Hawksyard development. Accommodation having Hallway, Guest w.c, Lounge and Open Plan to Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garden to rear and Allocated Parking

£144,995

Lanehead Walk, Etching Hill

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom detached property,located in a cul de sac close to local amenities. Having Hallway, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Refitted Shower Room. Driveway and Detached Garage with Garden to rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN

£179,995

Cambrian Lane, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached property,being close to local amenities. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge and Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with parking to Garage at rear

£122,500

Old Eaton Road, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom detached bungalow, being situated in a sought after location. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Lounge / Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Conservatory, Bathroom and Separate w.c. Driveway to Garage and Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN

£249,950

Beechmere Rise, Etching Hill

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this split level detached family home, situated in a quiet cul de sac location.Having Hallway with landing to Three Bedrooms, Bathroom and Separate w.c. Stairs down to Lounge/Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen and Guest w.c. Driveway to Garage and Garden to rear

£209,950

Elizabethan Way, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to market this modern four bedroom detached family home, situated on a corner plot. Having Hallway, Guest w.c, Study,Two Reception Rooms, Breakfast Kitchen and Utility. Master Bedroom with En Suite, Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom.Double Garage with parking and Garden

£259,950

rightmove.co.uk

Sales: 01889 577731

Horsefair, Rugeley, WS15 2EJ

The Property Ombudsman

and its Villages"

JR PROPERTIES

enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com
www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com

Church Street, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this semi detached family home, being positioned in a quiet private road and offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Hallway, Lounge, Conservatory and Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom, further stairs to Bedroom and En Suite. Parking and Gardens

£189,995

Lower Birches Way, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom end terraced home,situated on a sought after development. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Refitted Bathroom. Garden to rear with two allocated parking

£149,950

Tithebarn Road, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three bedroom detached bungalow, in a quiet cul de sac location. Accommodation having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen and Conservatory. Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and good sized Garden to rear

£274,950

Priory Avenue, Hawksyard

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented family home,on the sought after Hawksyard Estate. Having Hallway,Guest Cloaks, Study, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Conservatory. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite,Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Drive to Garage and Gardens

£269,995

Burnthill Lane, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three storey,three bedroom family home on a corner plot. Having Hallway, Guest w.c, Fitted Kitchen and Lounge. Landing to Two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom. Further Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite. Driveway to Garage and Gardens. "MUST BE VIEWED"

£164,950

Rugeley Road, Armitage

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom mobile home, situated on the popular Lower Lodge Park. Being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Double Glazed and LPG Gas Heating.

£87,500

Pike Lane, Armitage

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached home, located in a quiet village location. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room and Extended Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens and Parking to Rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN

£195,000

High Ridge, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious four bedroom detached property. The property is situated in a private drive in a popular residential area of Rugeley. There are two reception rooms, a conservatory and two refitted bathrooms. Viewing essential, No Chain

£299,950 OIEO

Armitage Road, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom traditional home,situated close to local amenities. Accommodation having Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility Room and Conservatory. Landing to Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to front and good sized gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN.

£154,950

Hislop Road, Rugeley

- JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached having the benefit of no upward chain. The property does require modernisation throughout but also offers a good investment and would make an ideal rental purchase

£99,950

rightmove.co.uk

Lettings: 01889 577731
Horsefair, Rugeley, WS15 2EJ

The Property Ombudsman

ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY

Commercial & Industrial Properties

Chartered Surveyors
Commercial Property Consultants
Estate Agents & Surveyors

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 4 THE CROSSINGS IND EST, BLOXWICH

- Small Industrial Unit Approx 900 sq ft (83.7 sq m)
- Roller Shutter Access
- Minimum Eaves Height 14ft (4.3m)
- 3 Phase 100 amp Electricity Supply
- EPC Rating E-113

PRICE: £75,000 plus VAT REF: BP/1784/AWH

OFFICES

CLARION WAY, CHADSMOOR

- Former West Chadsmoor Clinic
- Approx 3,118 sq ft (289.7 sq m)
- May Be Suitable for Redevelopment STPP
- Palisade Fenced Enclosed Car Park

PRICE: OIRO £185,000 No VAT. REF: BP/1781/AWH

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 12 BROOKFIELD DRIVE, CANNOCK

- Industrial Unit with Offices & Yard
- Warehouse 6,292 sq ft (584.5 sq m)
- Offices on Ground & First Floor Approx 1,574 sq ft (146.3 sq m)
- Palisade Fenced Yard providing Approx 16 Car PArking Spaces with further smaller Yard area for Approx 4/5 vehicles

RENT: £39,500 pax REF: BP/1786/AWH

INDUSTRIAL

RANTON PARK, HAWKS GREEN, CANNOCK

- Unit 2 Approx 2,000 sq ft (186 sq m)
- Includes Reception Office & WC
- 2 Car Parking Spaces
- EPC Rating D-82
- Unit 2 Approx 3,978 sq ft (369.6 sq m)
- Office & Wc's
- 3 Car Parking Spaces
- EPC Rating D-77

RENT: Unit 2 £10,000 pax. Unit 3 £20,000 pax

INDUSTRIAL

SWAFFIELD PARK, HAWKS GREEN

- Unit Approx 5,975 sq ft (555 sq m)
- Detached Unit Approx 5,950 sq ft (552.8 sq m)
- Detached Unit Approx 7,380sq ft (685.7 sq m)
- EPC Ratings: C-69 D-79, D-83 &

RENT: From 27,000 pax plus VAT REF: BP/SWAFF/

OFFICES

DAWTRY BARN, FOUR CROSSES, CANNOCK

- Suite 1A - Ground Floor
- Approx 500 sq ft (46.5 sq m)
- EPC Rating D-78
- Prominent Road Position
- Allocated Car Parking
- Junction 12 of M6 Approx 1/2 Mile
- T7 of M6 Toll Road approx 2 miles

RENT: £500 pcm plus VAT.

OFFICES

TOWERS POINT, TOWERS BUSINESS PARK, RUGELEY

- Modern Offices on First & Second Floors
- Approx 1,742 sq ft each floor
- Allocated Car Parking
- Passenger Lift
- EPC Rating D-100

RENT: £14,000 pax REF: BP/1674/AWH

RESTAURANT

37 - 39 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS

- Double Fronted Single Storey Bar/Restaurant Premises
- Overall Approx 914 sq ft
- Large Kitchen
- Bar Area & WC Facilities
- EPC Rating E-122

RENT: £18,000 pax

INDUSTRIAL UNIT

ENGINE LANE, BROWNHILLS

- Unit Approx 22,200 sq ft (2,062 sq m)
- Offices Approx 5,500 sq ft (511 sq m)
- May split from 7,000 sq ft (650 sq m)
- To Be Refurbished
- Front & Rear Service Yards
- A5 Approx 1 Mile
- EPC Rating E-107

RENT: ROA REF: BP/1682/ELH

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 6 HEMLOCK PARK, HYSSOP CLOSE, CANNOCK

- Detached Industrial Unit
- Approx 3,790 sq ft (352 sq m)
- Built in Offices & WC Facilities
- Mezzanine Floor Approx 3,055 sq ft
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rating - D92

RENT: £19,000 pax plus VAT BP/1750/KMC

OFFICES

COMMERCE HOUSE, RIDINGS PARK, CANNOCK

- LAST REMAINING SUITE
- Approx 1,300 sq ft
- Passenger Lift, WCs, Kitchen Area
- Allocated Car Parking
- Flexible Terms
- EPC Rated B-48

RENT: Price on Application REF: BP/123/KMC

OFFICES

INDUCTA HOUSE, BLOXWICH

- Two Storey Offices
- Approx 1,846 sq ft
- Individual & Open Plan Offices
- WC & Kitchen Facilities on Each Floor
- Car Parking
- EPC Rating G-156

RENT: From £5.00 psf pax REF: BP/1728/AWH

ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY

The Woodlands, 4 Hallcourt Crescent, off Walsall Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 0AB.

Tel: (01543) 506640 also at Telford

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ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY

Commercial & Industrial Properties

Chartered Surveyors
Commercial Property Consultants
Estate Agents & Surveyors

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 2/3 MOUNT ROAD, BURNTWOOD

- Warehouse 1,553 sq ft (144.2 sqm)
- Includes Offce & WC
- Eaves Height Approx 11ft (3.4m)
- Forecourt Car Parking for Approx 4/5 Cars

RENT: £7,750 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1761/AWH

INDUSTRIAL

PROSPECT HOUSE, BURNTWOOD

- Detached Property with Offices
- Main Warehouse 11,682 sq ft (1,085.3 sq m)
- Offices 1,435 sq ft (133.3 sq m)
- Side Unit 1,647 sq ft (153.0 sq m)
- Gate Site with Self-Contained Yard
- Forecourt Car Parking
- EPC Rating D-84

PRICE: £850,000 plus VAT. RENT: £85,000 pax plus VAT

INDUSTRIAL

UNITS AT MORGANS BUSINESS PARK, NORTON CANES

- Units 1 & 2 Approx 5,298 sq ft (492.2 sq m)
- EPC Rating C-62
- Unit 3 Approx 2,844 sq ft (264.2 sq m)
- EPC Rating C-64
- Minimum Eaves Height 18ft (5.5m)
- Prominent Frontage to Bettys Lane
- Allocated Car Parking

RENT: (1 & 2) £30,000 pax (3) £15,750 pax

INDUSTRIAL

UNITS 2 - 4 MIRAS BUSINESS ESTATE, HEDNESFORD

- Mid-Terraced Unit
- Approx 6,100 sq ft (566.7 sq m)
- May Divide from 2,300 sq ft (213.7 sq m)
- 3 Roller Shutters
- Open Plan Office, Kitchen & WC
- 13 Allocated Car Parking Spaces
- EPC Rating C-65

RENT: £29,000 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1732/KMC

Season's Greetings from Andrew Dixon & Company We would like to wish all our clients and customers a Happy Christmas and Prosperous 2017

INDUSTRIAL

Unit 11 OAKLANDS IND EST, HEDNESFORD

- Industrial Unit Approx 1,852 sq ft (172 sq m)
- Office, WC Facilities, 3 Phase Electricity & Gas
- Ease of Entry/Exit via a Flexi Lease
- Minimum 12 Months Required
- EPC Rating G-268

RENT: 8,250 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1764/AWH

OFFICES

PARK PLAZA, POINT NORTH, CANNOCK

- Whole First Floor in Modern Purpose Built Offices Premises Approx 3,720 sq ft (345.6 sq m)
- Cellular & Open Plan Offices
- Passenger Lift
- Suspended Ceilings, Integral Light Panels, Air Conditioning
- 10 Car Parking Spaces
- EPC Rating C-56

RENT: 32,000 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1760/KMC

INDUSTRIAL UNIT

UNIT 4 POINT NORTH, VIRAGE PARK, CANNOCK

- Fronting Walsall Road, Cannock
- Approx 3,901 sq ft (362.4 sq m)
- Office Accommodation to the Front
- Roller Shutter Access to the Rear
- EPC Rating D-85

RENT: £21,750 pax BP/1747/AWH

OFFICES

PHOENIX HOUSE, HAWKS GREEN

- Office Suites From148 sq ft to 157 sq ft
- Inclusive Rents
- Short Term Basis
- Car Parking
- EPC Rating D-79

RENT: From £198 pcm REF: BP/314/AWH

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 11 CANAL VIEW BUSINESS PARK, RUGELEY

- Total Area Approx 2,572 sq ft (239 sq m)
- Eaves Height Approx 6m
- Office & WC Facilities
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rated - D-95

RENT: £12,000 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1744

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

FORMER BURROWS PREMISES, CANNOCK ROAD

- ARTIST IMPRESSION OF DEVELOPMENT
- Site Area Approx 1.2 acres (0.49 hectares)
- Planning Permission for a "Courtyard Style" Development of 6 Residential Units
- Rural Location on edge of Cannock Chase
- Easy Access to M6, M6 Toll Road & M54 Motor-

GUIDE PRICE: £800,000 REF: BP/1763/ELH

INDUSTRIAL UNIT

UNIT 5 BRINDLEY BUSINESS PARK, CANNOCK

- Modern Purpose Built Unit
- Approx 2,411 sq ft (224 sq m)
- Office, WC & Kitchen
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rating E121

RENT: £12,750 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1565/AWH

ANDREW DIXON & COMPANY

The Woodlands, 4 Hallcourt Crescent, off Walsall Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 0AB.

Tel: (01543) 506640 also at Telford

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Fiat Tipo is old school but likeable

By James Fossdyke

FIAT TIPO LOUNGE 1.6 MULTIJET II 120, £19,499

Fiat's new family hatchback gets an old name and old-school simplicity, but there's something likeable about that.

Pretty much everything about the Tipo is new, apart from the name. Last seen on a boxy hatchback of the '80s and '90s, the Italian nameplate we thought had vanished is back on the tailgate of a practical Fiat.

This Tipo is here to take on the likes of the Kia Cee'd and Hyundai i30 at the budget end of a market led by the ever-popular Ford Focus and Volkswagen Golf.

It's a no-nonsense, no-frills family car, and comes with a simple engine range, a simple model line-up and a simple, if fairly stylish, design.

Although the Tipo is supposed to be one of Fiat's budget offerings, it's actually a pretty good-looking car. There's certainly no betrayal of its £12,995 asking price in the hexagonal grille, the squinting headlights and the curvaceous bonnet.

No, it doesn't jump out at you in the way cars like the Ford Focus do, but there's something appealing about its understated handsomeness.

Inside, the cabin is made up of various bits and bobs nabbed straight from the Fiat-Chrysler group's parts bin. The five-inch touchscreen found on better-equipped variants is identical to the one found in high-spec Fiat 500s, while the steering wheel is shared with the Jeep Renegade, and the gear lever appears to be the same as the one found in the Alfa Romeo Giulietta.

All these parts feel relatively well put together, and though it's a bit dark in there, the cabin – small touchscreen aside – even looks quite stylish.

The Tipo is monstrously practical, offering a sizeable 440-litre boot that's competitive in the segment. Although both the Honda Civic and the Peugeot 308 are more capacious, the Fiat makes the Volkswagen Golf and Ford Focus look cramped.

It's the same story in the cabin, where there's plenty of room for passengers front and rear, with decent headroom and plenty of legroom all round. A plethora of cubbyholes should also mean there's always somewhere readily available storing sundry items.

Dynamics

The Tipo's cabin is well suited to long distances, but the driving dynamics are even better suited to touring. It's comfortable even over poor surfaces, and the 1.6-litre diesel engines are punchy enough to cope with in-gear acceleration during arduous motorway miles, while the refinement is decent without being exemplary.

As a result of this, the Tipo is no driver's car. The steering is numb and the 'dead zone' around the straight-ahead position is a little too large, meaning small corrections on motorways and fast A-roads are occasionally difficult to judge.

On the plus side, though, driving around town is made simple by the lightweight low-speed steering and the commendable visibility.

It's economical, too, thanks to the frugal diesel engines that make up the most popular engines in the range. Officially, the 118bhp diesel mated to a manual gearbox is capable of 76.3mpg and 99g/km CO2 emissions, but this can be improved by going for the business-focused Elite version, which manages 89g/km emissions – handy for company car drivers looking to reduce their tax bills.

If you don't need that efficiency, though, there's a healthy engine range to choose from. The standard engine is a 1.4-litre petrol with 94bhp, but you can also have a 1.6-litre with 108bhp or a 1.4-litre turbocharged engine with 118bhp. There's a smaller 1.3-litre diesel, too, but its 94bhp output is far behind that of the 1.6 and it isn't noticeably more efficient.

The £12,995 starting price is an attractive one, but you don't really get all that much for your money. Sure, you get air conditioning, but it's the manual variety that doesn't seem to differ all that much from the average heater/fan arrangement. You also get 15-inch wheels with plastic hub covers and the basic 94bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine.

Of course, it's a lot of car for the price of a mid-range Ford Fiesta, but most customers are going to want a few of the home comforts you'll find in the mid-range Easy Plus model. It's £1,000 more expensive than the basic Easy variant and it offers 16-inch alloy wheels, a wider choice of engines and the five-inch Uconnect touchscreen infotainment system.

At the top of the Tipo range is the Lounge trim, which is a further £1,000 more expensive than the trim level below. Although that £14,995 asking price only gets you the basic engine, it does buy you an awful lot of kit. Satellite navigation, climate control and 17-inch alloys are just the start, with automatic lights and wipers, a rear-view camera and chrome trim also included.

It's a no-nonsense, no-frills family car with a simple, if fairly stylish design

There's a business-focused Elite trim level, too, which costs £16,995 and offers the five-inch touchscreen, satellite navigation and a safety pack, as well as an environmental upgrade that improves the efficiency of the diesel powertrain.

Optional extras include leather seats with heaters, priced at £750, and safety packs that incorporate gadgets such as lane departure warning, autonomous emergency braking and adaptive cruise control.

Anyone looking for a practical, comfortable and well-priced family hatchback will find the Tipo fits their needs perfectly. Like the Panda, it's an honest workhorse that focuses more on family life than on Nurburgring lap times, and it's all the better for it.

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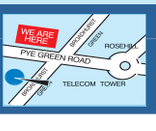

Vitara offers strong option in compact crossover sector

A youthful and dynamic-looking product

Small SUV-style 'Juke-genre' Crossover models are all the rage just at present. Every mainstream brand, it seems, must have one. Here's Suzuki's offering for customers in this sector, the surprisingly light, lithe and fashionable Vitara.

The Vitara is the kind of youthful, dynamic-looking product that buyers of compact Crossover models seem to want. On paper, it certainly seems to tick all the 'Juke-genre' boxes, with lifestyle looks, trendy cabin technology and superministandards of efficiency. It even claims to be a rewarding steer on twisty tarmac, especially with the 1.4-litre BOOSTERJET 1.4-litre petrol turbo engine that the Japanese brand has added since this car was originally launched. That really would make it different from small Suzuki SUVs of the past. There are familiar touches though: value pricing, high specifications and a 4WD option – something actually relatively unusual in this segment.

The performance-orientated 1.4-litre petrol turbo engine is one of Suzuki's newest units and gives this car a reasonable turn of speed, enabling it to make 62mph in 10.2s en route to 124mph. Otherwise, the mechanicals aren't anything too surprising, shared as they are with the existing SX-4 S-Cross. That means buyers get to choose between either a 1.6-litre petrol engine or a much preferable Fiat-sourced 118bhp 1.6 diesel, both being offered in front or four-wheel drive

It is quite an assured piece of design work

guises.The petrol engine is fitted with a five-speed manual gearbox as standard with an optional CVT transmission also offered. Go diesel and you get a six-speed manual 'box. The short overhangs will help with off-roading but the 185mm ground clearance isn't that generous.

The ALLGRIP four-wheel-drive system is standard with the 1.4-litre petrol turbo and optional with the 1.6-litre variants.

With tight proportions and a front end that has more than a hint of current Land Rover design about it, the Vitara is quite an assured piece of design work. There's also a blacked-out floating glasshouse, heavily sculpted flanks and a very neat taillamp finish. Buyers can also specify a rugged package which adds front and rear skidplates as well as additional body side mouldings.

Suzuki cabins have long been the marque's weak link but this Vitara shows the company pulling its socks up a bit. Okay, so the idea of body-coloured metal across the dash isn't a new one (many of you will recall the Fiat Coupe mining that trend way back in '93) but Suzuki also offers chrome around the gearlever and door trims, plus an analogue clock. It's by no means a large vehicle, breaking the tape at just over four metres long, but still features a features a 375-litre boot.

Prices start at around £14,000 for the entry-level 1.6-litre petrol, but you'll need a £20,000 budget for the petrol ALLGRIP 4WD version. 1.6 DDiS diesel model pricing starts at around £17,000. For the 1.4-litre petrol turbo ALLGRIP model, you'll need around £21,000. All variants get seven airbags, 16-inch alloy wheels, a DAB Radio with USB and Bluetooth connectivity, cruise control with a speed limiter, auto air conditioning, front and rear electric windows and projector headlamps. The SZ-T trim adds 17-inch alloy wheels, rear privacy glass, Smartphone link audio and a navigation system. Moving up to SZ5 adds LED Projector headlights, 17-inch polished alloy wheels, suede seat fabric, keyless entry with start button, Adaptive Cruise Control, Radar Brake Support and a Panaoramic sunroof.

There's a range of personalisation options and two key extra-cost packages. The 'Urban' package consists of fog lamp bezels (chrome-plated), body-side mouldings, and a roof spoiler. The 'Rugged' package delivers front and rear skid plates, fog lamp bezels, body-side mouldings and loading edge protection.

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Car firm raises £90,000 for charity

Midlands used car retailers AvailableCar has raised £90,000 so far this year for charity. Figures look set to reach the £100,000 by January 2017 for its adopted charity Acorns Children's Hospice.

The store which opened in Cannock in June 2013 decided to support the Midlands charity and the care it offers, for life-limited and life-threatened children and young people, whilst also supporting their families across the Midlands.

For some time now, the AvailableCar team has been using a highly successful fundraising scheme, which asks every customer at their Cannock branch to kindly add anything up to the value of £5 onto the price of their car.

AvailableCar then match the figure and all the money raised, goes straight to Acorns and the work which takes place at its three hospices based in Birmingham, Walsall and Worcester and in the community.

Amanda Smallman, corporate fundraising manager at Acorns, said: "On behalf of all the families who rely on Acorns for support we want to say a huge thank you to AvailableCar for such a significant amount.

"It costs us nearly £10 million every year to continue and we rely on the generosity of the local community for most of this amount, so we're incredibly grateful to all the employees and customers who donated."

Acorns Children's Hospice offers a network of specialist palliative care for children and young people and their families, which includes respite, short breaks, emergency and end of life care.

In the last year, Acorns has supported over 830 children and more than 1,062 families, including those who are bereaved.

Acorns is the only organisation in the West Midlands that provides this level of care while offering a range of support services for the whole family to help them cope at every stage of their child's life and beyond into bereavement.

AvailableCar looks set to reach £100,000 for a children's hospice

Paul Arscott Available Car operations director said: "Raising money for charity is something we take very seriously at AvailableCar, we want all our employees to work together and do as much as they can for Acorns.

"All the AvailableCar supermarkets support a local children's charity in the hope we can make a small difference to something hugely important.

"Ultimately we would like to see every child and young person in the West Midlands with a life threatening condition, receive the support and the care they need. "I believe our in-store donation scheme has been a key success factor in our fundraising efforts, thanks to the generosity of our wonderful customers and the AvailableCar directors and owners Graham and Alison Bell, who match every donation received.

"All the money we raise goes straight to Acorns to try and support and expand their in-house respite and emergency services."

AvailableCar is now planning on ensuring to come up with new employee events and continue its good work with the help of customers, to reach the £100,000 milestone figure.

AvailableCar first started raising funds in 2007 and will have raised (by January 2017) more than £710,000 for three children's charities nationally.

For further information about Acorns or to donate visit www.Acorns.org.uk

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Tribute to eternal original

By Ian Donaldson

Everyone knows the original Mini has grown up and out since its launch more than half a century ago, but the latest version goes back to its roots – in name, at least.

It's called the MINI Seven, in tribute to the first one sold as an Austin Seven (no mention of the Morris Mini-Minor which sold alongside for a bit), and is the first special edition of the current car. It comes as three or five-door hatchback and with four engine choices; Cooper, Cooper S, Cooper D and Cooper SD. Prices start at £18,545 for a Cooper Seven and top out at £24,200 for an SD Seven Auto.

All of them are unchanged mechanically from their non-Seven sibling, concentrating instead in standing out from the crowd with special paintjobs, debuting as the standard Seven colour something called Lapisluxury Blue and described as the most intensive blue ever applied to a MINI. Also standard are a silver roof and exterior mirror caps (Melting Silver, to be precise) as well as special alloy wheels with a two-tone design.

Inside the Seven theme continues with sports seats in a fabric and leather finish called Diamond Malt Brown and exclusive to this version.

Oh, and there are enough MINI Seven logos outside and inside the car to let everyone know what you're driving.

MINI paying tribute to its roots

The current car is rather bigger than before

A car that actually carries its new badge with justifiable pride

But, as every owner of a new MINI knows, you've barely started at this stage... temptations to add features to your car are only a mouse click away. That's how the car tested here came to be worth £26,020 – or more than five grand over its list price.

Easily done, in fact, of you find things like satellite navigation (part of a £1,620 media pack that also adds enhanced Bluetooth and USB audio) and LED headlights (£610) are essentials on your new pride and joy.

Then you might like heated front seats (a bit of a bargain at £215) and active cruise control (keenly priced too, at £350) to go with the other goodies. Or you might take the car as it comes (showing commendable will power) and delight in a car that actually carries its new badge with justifiable pride.

Far more than a mere cashing in on a famous name, the latest MINI, especially in fast Cooper S form really does manage to preserve the spirit of a car that turned an entire generation on to small, nippy cars.

Of course, the current car is rather bigger than before (spot an original on the motorway and marvel that it can take four adults, still) and vastly safer too. It also can claim to be much more comfortable – not a word often associated with the 1959 car.

It is also so much quicker that its performance would have been considered absurdly race track oriented back then, with a top speed the other side of 140mph and the ability to hit 62mph in 6.8 seconds.

But simple statistics – and descriptions of colours – don't get close to the essence of MINI motoring. Few cars of any size make any journey such fun and

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Renault Scenic viable SUV alternative

By James Parker

Car manufacturers regularly call their latest offerings 'all-new' when they're actually an amalgamation of warmed-up leftovers, but in the case of the fourth-generation Scenic it's really true.

Renault has described the new Scenic as an "apres SUV", built for people who don't actually want an SUV but quite fancy the looks and practicality of one. Many customers, though, are expected to be the sort of people who would otherwise opt for a Citroen C4 Picasso or a VW Golf SV.

There's certainly something SUV-like about the looks. There's plenty of ground clearance, a high beltline and some plastic body cladding that hints at ruggedness without explicitly promising it. For all that, though, just one aspect of the Scenic's styling grabs the attention. Those 20-inch alloys seen in these pictures are no trademark of the top-of-the-range, all-singing, all-dancing version but a standard feature on each and every trim level. They fill the arches nicely, as you'd expect, and because the car has been designed around them, they give it a powerful stance.

Inside, there's a relatively premium feel, with a large central touchscreen flanked by some solid-feeling switchgear and soft-touch plastic.

When it comes to family cars, practicality may not be the be-all and end-all, but it isn't far off. Renault has designed this Scenic to be among the most capacious in the segment, and the newcomer's claimed 572-litre boot is certainly competitive.

But there's more to practicality than boot

There's plenty of ground clearance

space, and the Scenic offers plentiful storage options, ranging from a drawer-like glove box to underfloor bins. There's a drawer under the driver's seat, too, and the rear seats are available with aeroplane-style tray tables.

On driving an all-new car, it's very easy to have a preconceived idea of what it will be like to drive – normally an accurate one. You would have thought, then, that the Scenic would be like all MPVs: a bit wallowy and a bit vague, but mostly just dull.

It's our pleasure to report, however, that the Renault exceeds all expectations. The steering, for example, is heavier than you might expect, but in a good way. It feels more solid than that of rivals, and it makes the Scenic very easy to place on the road.

You expect cars of this ilk to roll a lot through the corners, too, but the Renault just wafts on through, displaying impressive levels of body control and grip for a car so tall. Amazingly, it's quite good fun to drive.

Better still, the 20-inch alloys really are fine. You expect cars with such huge wheels to be firm and jiggly when you get them on the road, but the Scenic actually rides quite well.

RENAULT SCENIC, FROM £21,445

There's certainly something SUV-like about the looks of the new Scenic

The engineers have shod those alloys in tyres with the same profile as the outgoing car's 17-inch tyres, so they soak up the bumps nicely, and the well-tuned suspension works a treat.

It's by no means perfect, though. Our test car came with a 1.2-litre turbocharged petrol engine, which offered just about enough punch and good refinement, but struggled with economy.

The 1.5- and 1.6-litre diesel engines, on the other hand, manage impressive 70mpg official economy figures, but if you start to stretch their legs their grumbling becomes intrusive.

Renault has not yet confirmed pricing, but the company has said that the starting price will be just under £20,000. For that you get a 1.2-litre petrol engine, a seven-inch touchscreen and two-zone climate control, as well as automatic lights and wipers and a plethora of safety systems. An autonomous emergency braking system is standard across the range, while all models also get a host of airbags and ISOFIX child-seat mounting points.

It's worth moving up to the Dynamique Nav model, though, if only to get the R-Link infotainment system with satellite navigation, keyless entry and the useful sliding centre storage bin. If you want to go all-out, you can have the top-of-the-range Signature Nav, which offers full leather upholstery and a panoramic glass roof, among other things.

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Drivers call for tougher action to tackle pollution

Dirtiest vehicles needed to be penalised

The majority of UK motorists believe stronger action should be taken to combat vehicle pollution, research has found.

The RAC Report on Motoring 2016 found that, of the 1,714 UK drivers interviewed, 66 per cent wanted more to be done to reduce pollution in areas with the poorest air quality.

In terms of what should be done, 55 per cent believed the dirtiest vehicles should be charged when they enter a particularly polluted area.

Motorists were also supportive of vehicles being banned from entering the most polluted areas outright, with 55 per cent agreeing to this measure.

David Bizley, RAC chief engineer, said: "Our research indicates motorists, who are sometimes seen as the enemy when it comes to air quality, actually want to see more done to improve poor air quality that is blighting some local areas – suggesting they want to be part of the solution themselves. But we need a considered and consistent approach to tackling the problem."

Another 57 per cent were also keen to see diesel vehicles that failed to comply with Euro 6 emission standards hit with charges when entering town and city centres, where air quality is poorest. A large minority of 42 per cent thought all diesel vehicles should be charged for entering these areas.

The RAC is also concerned that government incentives to help encourage the uptake of low-emissions vehicles are disappearing. Payouts from the plug-in grant scheme are getting smaller in some cases, and there is no guarantee of this being extended past March 2018.

Changes to vehicle excise duty bands that come into effect in April 2017 will largely wipe out benefits of switching to a low-emissions vehicle.

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deaths

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT
CUSTOMER INFORMATION
CHRISTMAS DEADLINES

Publication Thursday, December 22. Deadline is Thursday, December 15, at 12 noon.

Publication Thursday, December 29, Deadline is Wednesday, December 21, at 12 noon.

Publication Thursday, January 5. Deadline is Wednesday December 28, at 12 noon.

Please note that Reception will be closed Monday 26, Tuesday 27, Thursday 29 and Monday, January 2.

ANSLOW
Christopher Harry

In loving memory of Christopher Harry Anslow. Counsillor, Rock Star, Soul Mate, Father and best Friend December 10, 2015

Although we cannot see you, we know just where you are, by day you're the shining sun, by night the brightest star, we have so many memories they often make us cry but the love that's locked within our hearts, will live and never die.

Miss you more every single day. Always in our hearts. Love, Wendy and Lucie.

ALDRED
Rita Mary

Sadly passed away on Wednesday November 30, 2016, aged 64 years.

Much loved Wife, Mom and Nan who will be missed dearly by all of her Family and Friends.

Her Funeral Service will take place on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Stafford Crematorium, at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations would be appreciated for Ward 19, at The Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
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70 Church Street, Cannock,WS11 1DH
01543 502322

ALDRED
Rita

God saw you getting tired a cure was not to be, so He put his arms around you and whispered come to me.

So with tearful eyes I watched you and saw you pass away, and although I love you I could not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating, God broke my heart to prove He only takes the best.

Love always Chris.

X X X

Mom

Our lives will never be the same without you. You had such a special way, to not hear your voice or have your touch makes me cry everyday.

We think about you every minute and hope that you are now at rest.

Dearly loved, the best Mom and the most fantastic Nanny.

Love you lots.

Philippa, Jon, Tilly and Ruby.

X X X

Mom

We your Family miss you in the house where you used to be, we wanted so much to keep you, but God willed it not to be.

Now you are in Gods keeping, you suffer no more pain, so dear God take care of Mom until we meet again.

Love Andrew, Donna, James, Matthew and Faye.

X X X

GARDNER
Valerie
(Cornwall)

My dear friend, Val, we grew up together, shared happy and laughable memories together.

Greatly missed by all.

God bless.

Love Barbara and Mike.

HUGHES
Jean

Passed away peacefully on November 28, 2016, at Briar Hill Nursing Home, aged 87 years.

The Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please, any donations received will be given to Parkinson's UK.

These can be forwarded c/o
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Bedford House,
15, Bow Street,
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01889 582274.

MURPHY
Emily
(Pinky)

Passed away peacefully on November 19, 2016.

A loving Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother, who will be sorely missed by all. Soon to be reunited with Husband Jim. To all the Angels up above please welcome Pinky with all our love.

God bless and Goodnight.

Cremation service to be held at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel on December 12 at 3.00pm.

Afterward at Featherstone Community Centre. All welcome. No flowers but donations to St. Giles Hospice gratefully received.

PEARCE
Bernard

Sadly passed away Sunday, November 27, 2016, aged 83 years.

Much loved Father to Gary, Roger and Beverley and loving Grandad to his six Grandchildren.

He will be dearly missed by all his Family and Friends.

Funeral Service on Tuesday, December 13, at Stafford Crematorium, at 1.30pm.

Flowers welcome or donations to Age UK or Midland Air Ambulance c/o

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

VAN ZYL
Molly

Sadly passed away at home on November 27, 2016, aged 83 years.

The Funeral Service will take place on Monday, December 19, 2016, at 1pm, at Streetly Crematorium, East Chapel.

Family flowers only.

Donations to St Giles Hospice.

Inquiries c/o:
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3 Swan Island,
Chase Road,
Burntwood,
WS7 0DW.
Telephone 01543 685375.

WINFINDALE
Harry

Sadly passed away peacefully at home on October 18, 2016 aged 86 years.

If you have a Husband, a Dad and Grandad cherish them with care, because you will never know the loss until you see his empty chair.

Sadly missed by Wife Brenda, loving Daughter Jayne and Grandson Lucas.

in memoriam

HAWKINS
Reginald James

December 11, 2014.

Memories of you will never grow old, like Autumn leaves they turn to gold, never more than a thought away, loved and remembered every day.

Missed greatly by Sheila and Family.

JACKSON
Horace

December 8. 2015.

Your photo stands in pride of place, a lovely smile lights up your face.

You always seem to be so near, how I wish Horace you were still here.

Love and miss you,

Wife Margaret.

Dad

Sadly missed.

We still cry the day God took you, we still cry lots today.

But in our hearts of hearts we knew God would have His say.

God saw you getting weary, He did what He thought best.

He put His arms around you and took you up to rest.

Heaven.

Daughter Carol, Son Leon and Granddaughter Tracy.

Dad

It was with the saddest of hearts we laid you to rest.

But it's true what they say Dad, He only takes the best.

Love you always.

Net, Shaun and Girls

birthday remembrances

HIBBERT
Florence
Floss

In Loving memory of a dearly loved Mom.

100th birthday, December 10, 2016.

Forever loved, forever missed.

Daughter Sue, Granddaughter Andrea, Steve and Family.

X X X

acknowledgements

WINFINDALE
Harry

Brenda and Jayne would like to say thank you to Dave Webster for a lovely service, also to Linda and the Funeral Director and Bearers from Co Op Funeral Care, Cannock for their kindness and professional service.

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READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

guttering

GET YOUR GUTTERS CLEANED from £30 back and front! Also supply and fit hedgehogs. All roofing work undertaken. BJ Contractors. Call for free quotes 0800 535 3155

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ALL ROUND CLEARANCE
Professional family run business
House clearances full or part, also garages, sheds etc.
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A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

christmas trees/wreaths

CHRISTMAS TREES
Nordmann Fir from £20
with FREE mistletoe
Holly Wreaths from £5.
opp HOLLY BUSH GARDEN CENTRE EXIT, J11 M6.
Open 7 days a week

kitchen fitters

THE KITCHEN FITTER
- Over 20 years experience in kitchen fitting & project managing.
- Specialist in fitting all retail kitchens.
- Very competitive price.
- Quick quotes over the phone can be given if preferred.

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MINT PLASTERING
For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200
30 years experience.
Free quotes. All work guaranteed
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ENGLISH SPRINGER Spaniel pups, excellent pedigree / quality, £450 each. 07464 732193.

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PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN No job too small or large. Call Will for a free quote on: 07521 411108.

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LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

business services

CES BOOKKEEPING SERVICES Accounts, Tax Returns, VAT Services Available. Bespoke prices for your business! 07595747008

6 Property

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

properties wanted

Need to sell your home fast?
We can help you make a fresh start
With solutions to suit ...
you can clear your debts and make a fresh start
Purchase Agreed Within 7 DAYS
ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED
COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT
FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS
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WHY NOT CALL US TODAY
for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?
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OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

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Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££
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Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

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FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
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Brought to you by Express & Star

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FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191
Brought to you by Express & Star

7 Jobs

full time - general

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A full time position has become available for a person with all round experience in General Property Maintenance

Terms & Conditions to be discussed on interview

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Tel: **01785 250600** opt 2 between 9.30am - 3.30pm (Mon- Fri)

Email: **LD@hlhg.co** or **JF@hlhg.co**

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

HONDA CIVIC S
2009, 85000 Miles, Red, abs, electric windows, fsh, long MoT, Low Profile Alloys available £4,150 ono.
01902 787600.

BARGAIN

MINI COOPER 1.6

52 reg., red with white roof and stripe down bonnet, white alloys, 78,000 original miles, all MoT's, lots of Service history. MoT June 2017. Good condition for year.

£1,995 ono

07935 180184.

MUST BE SEEN

RANGE ROVER

2004, HSE. Good condition, six months MoT.

£4,500 no offers.

07951 224740

MUST BE SEEN

VW GOLF GTi

5Dr, 06 Reg., in black, 2.0 turbo, long MoT, drives great, 190bhp, all usual extras.

£3,995.

01543 579587

or

07974 256690.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

GOOD RUNNER

DAEWOO LANOS
1998, 1.3, 5-dr hatchback. Silver, petrol, sunroof. central locking, MoT June 2017.
£250.
07761 722981.

GOOD RUNNER

NISSAN MICRA

2000, 1.0, petrol, green, Mot June 2017.

£425.

07805 644260.

BARGAIN

ROVER 45 CONNOISSEUR

2004, eight months MoT, 53,000 miles, nightfire red, climate control, leather interior, good condition.

£650 o.n.o.

0121 556 3360

or

07900 441090

VAUXHALL CORSA SXI+

2006, 1.8, 69,000 Miles, Silver, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, long MoT, central locking, pas, Alloys, CD, Leather Interior

£1,100 ono

01889 620286

commercial vehicles

VAUXHALL COMBO CDTi van, 09 reg, 10 months MoT, excellent condition inside and out. £995. 07495 284545.

driving tuition

Homer's
10 Hours £125! Four Hours £40! 2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10
07432 458100 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

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ALL BIKES WANTED Anything considered. Pristine, non runners, barn finds, unfinished projects Highways 07971 793661 or 01902 773608.

Highway MOTORCYCLES

WANTED Clean Used Bikes MOT While-U-Wait No Fuss! Fair Prices

*****DECEMBER SPECIAL*****
**** MOT £29.65****
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highway-motorcycles.co.uk

MOTORBIKE TRAILER
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scrap vehicles

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TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

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CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

WANTED Cheap car, nice condition, long MoT, anything considered. From 52 Reg onwards. 01922 512935.

spares & accessories

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Cannock Chase Council

Application No: CH/16/449
Case Officer: C Faulkner

Site Location: 50, Anson Street, Rugeley

Proposal: Change of use from shop (A1) to HMO and side and rear extension

Application No: CH/16/185
Case Officer: C Faulkner

Site Location: The Plaza, Horse Fair, Rugeley, WS152EJ

Proposal: Alterations to garden including erection of pergola, erection of wall with railings and gates and creation of new access from car park

All applications may be inspected at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley

The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.

If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 29/12/2016 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on

01902 713146

or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

10 Personals

personal

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STREETLY BURIAL PLOT for sale, text for details and price 07813 744491.

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WLTM sincere lady age up to 70 years, for Friendship. Similar interests. Fire/Air signs preferred. OHAC.
Perhaps brighten up my Christmas this year.
Wolverhampton/Cannock/Lichfield and surrounding areas.
Recent photo appreciated (returned).
Must have landline connection.
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73 YEARS YOUNG, GOING ON 60

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I am looking for a long term relationship with the right lady.
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Express & Star

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- 5cm x 2 column advert in Chronicle of your choice
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*All prices are subject to VAT

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Chair	£20	£10
2 seater sofa	£32	£16
3 seater sofa	£38	£19

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Working hard to cut the cost of your cleaning
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www.jptechniclean.co.uk 1994

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FREE **Delivery & Fitting On All Appliances**
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Dyson Repairs & Spares

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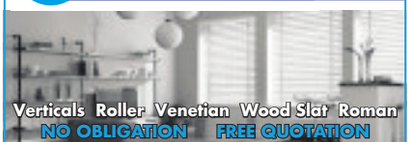

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Free fitting Wide fabric choice Fast local service
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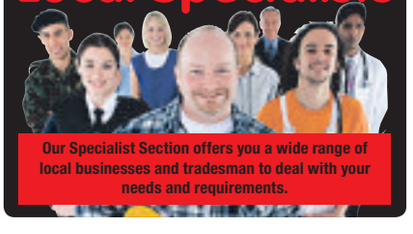
Local Specialists



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Featheredge	£25	£23	£21	£18.50	£15
Overlap 10 Bar	£17.50	£16	£14.50	£13	£11.50
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Trellis	£16	£14	£12	£10	£9

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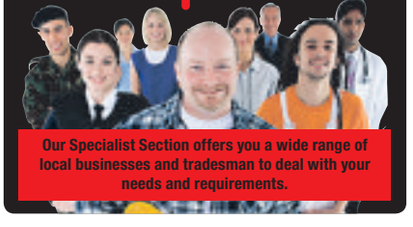

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JEAN, mature lady, genuine with many hobbies, slim, blonde and attractive. WLTM interesting gent with GSOH, must be cheerful, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424675**

SARAH, 39yrs, married, seeking chap for no strings intimate times. Special friendship, mutual respect. Give me a call. **Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 408291**

SANDRA, smart, sophisticated lady young looking 60s, genuine and kind seeks gent with GSOH, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424671**

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 422365**

CHRISTINE, 40, attractive slim sporty brunette seeks fit well built male. Call me let's see what the future brings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425061**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673**

LOUISE, 29, curvy red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425041**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

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SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399**

KAREN, 47, an attractive blue-eyed redhead, curvy size 16, likes films, football, pubs, reading, seeking likeminded male for nights in/out, hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 425057**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375**

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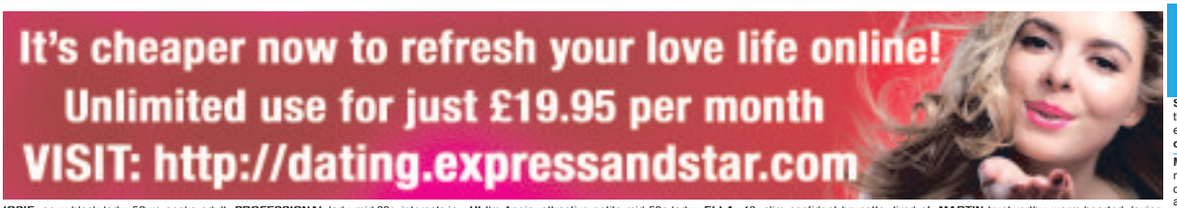

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CAROL, mid 50s lady, young at heart, attractive and sexy (so I'm told)! Give me a call if you are a gent with GSOH. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424783**

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MELINDA, 52yrs, attractive and broad minded seeking chap any age for some fun. Couples also. **Text only Mailbox: 4131946**

JACKIE, 56yrs, attractive lady who is lots of fun seeks like-minded gent for nights in, days out and much much more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424491**

PROFESSIONAL lady, mid 60s, interests include gardening, theatre, walking, days out and travelling, animal lover, looking for a professional gentleman, kind and caring, intellectual and outgoing, with gosh, for friendship possibly more, in the Stafford area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424569**

HI I'm Ellie, 39, pretty, funny, great figure, OHAC/child, have everything apart from a man, WLTM someone I wanna be with, not have to be. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424635**

CALL or text me, I'm Claire, single, 41yrs loves life to the full, hoping you will contact me if you want a genuine fun time. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424779**

SARAH, mature feminine lady, kind caring but still has a sensual side, hoping to meet like minded, confident, non smoking gent with GSOH, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424777**

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SUZANNA, 45, lonely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable very sexy man for lots of TLC and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424847**

SARAH, young looking curvy 41yr old female, bored with everyday routines, WLTM up for some fun dicreet and extremely broadminded younger male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424827**

DEBBIE, 50, petite blonde looking for some fun and adventure with similar fun loving mature male. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424799**

DONNA, 42, bright bubbly blue eyed blonde looking for someone to enjoy life and love to the full with. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424873**

MARY, professional mature lady, loves life, very sociable and fun, seeks gent for good conversation and happy times. All calls and texts answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424775**

SUE, attractive genuine lady, own home, loves to spoil a man, give me a call or text. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424673**

ANGELA, 48yrs, seeks male companion for nights out, dining, maybe more. ACA or text me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424495**

JULIE, 53yrs, tall, slim, dark haired lady, sociable and fun loving, new to the area so WLTM men friends for fun, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424497**

SEXY brunette 39, petite, brown eyes, seeks energetic discreet guy for no strings fun and friendship. Age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424451**

HEATHER, 48, well travelled solvent brunette looking to share a large glass of wine and whatever follows with affectionate man friend. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424429**

TERRI, attractive young looking 29yrs, long legged sporty seeking nice man to fall in love with, up to 45yrs. If that's you pls call, you have nothing to lose. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424377**

DIVORCED female, attractive, sensual by nature, OHAC, bored with own company, looking to make life a little more exciting with likeminded man. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424591**

PATRICIA, 50s, solvent female, tactile, fun, likes to travel, seeks tall, easygoing mature male to enjoy all the good things in life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424553**

BARBARA, 36, slim blonde, likes music, sport, the outdoors, quiet nights in etc, WLTM kind honest gent to share interests and get to know me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424549**

HELEN, mid 50's naughty lady seeks some fun times with gent any age. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424493**

HI I'm Angie, attractive petite mid 50s lady. I'm a very very active lady, with lots of interests. WLTM chap with GSOH, looks/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424333**

HELLO Gents, I'm a mature attractive interesting lady, with gorgeous eyes. I'm smart, sophisticated, love theatre and films. Give me a call or text me. Looks unimportant, must be kind. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424331**

SICK of being stuck on the shelf, Jenny, 45, attractive female seeks N/S caring male 42-55 who feels the same to share adult companionship, meals in/out, possibly LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424225**

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, 57, widow, likes dining out, country pubs, good conversation and laughter, seeks genuine professional gent, with a gosh with similar interests, to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424157**

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel, wining/dining, WLTM genuine male for mutual companionship. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424231**

HI I'm Pam, 42, slim, blonde, green eyes, discreet, loves cuddles, seeking similar discreet tactile male for mutual friendship with benefits. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424101**

LOUISE, 39, tactile good-looking solvent female WLTM spontaneous male for holidays, spoiling and lots of fun times. Age/looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424055**

NAOMI, 43, attractive fun loving female with lots of love to offer a genuine caring guy. Come on, lets share all the good things life has to offer together! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424085**

CLARA, 32yr Irish lass working away from home and friends, lonely and looking for older male companionship with no ties or complications. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424021**

FEMALE 50, seeks male of similar age for friendship, possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 350529**

JANE 40's, blonde blue-eyed petite build, WLTM understanding discreet tall, caring man for daytime meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424769**

SUSAN, 43, pretty green eyed brunette looking for an interesting attractive man who would understand my wicked sense of humour. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424381**

JOY attractive Asian female 37, loves to dance, looking for older English gent to teach me some new steps, fall in love with, spoil, pamper and make feel very special. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424255**

WENDY, 44yrs, dark haired beauty with blue eyes and a fab figure. WLTM gent any age, give me a call and I promise to call you back, or text/email. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424339**

RENATA, 55, slim, attractive lady with long auburn hair just wants to have a good time with likeminded older guy up to 75yrs. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424263**

LOUISE, 40, elegant genuine blonde who's been hurt in the past seeks tall handsome male to be her Mr Right. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424261**

MELANIE, 49yrs, varied interests, attractive, sensual lady seeks gent any age or status, call, see what happens. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424337**

CALLING all Gentlemen! I'm Janet a mature solvent stylish lady, I'm waiting for you to call me so we can wine/dine and have some good times ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424335**

BABS, single mum looking for adult companionship, any age/looks or status. Interested? Come on over to my place. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424253**

ELLA, 46, slim confident brunette, tired of spending lonely nights alone, seeking honest, romantic male to enjoy nights out, hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424015**

JANE, attractive blonde lady, genuine, sincere, likes theatre, meals out, looking to meet nice looking professional single man. **Text only Mailbox: 5535192**

JULIE, attractive early 40's brunette, size 10, varied interests, WLTM male for fun times, good conversations, spoiling and maybe more. status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423903**

LYN, 39yrs, dark hair and blue eyes, WLTM action man of any age for fun and games. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423899**

AMY 31yr old single mum, new to the area, looking to meet male companion to help make me settle in and feel special again, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424051**

TALL, slim and curvy woman, 57,,attractive with GSOH and varied interests, seeks similar man 50-65 Bristol area, for discreet assignations. **Text only Mailbox: 5546538**

DIANE, loving and caring, young 72 year old, blond hair, brown eyes, smoker, looking for genuine male with gosh, for friendship. Walsall area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424025**

Single Men

HONEST male, 60s, N/S, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**

MALE, 63, caring, easygoing, N/S seeks female 50-70 for friendship and romance. Looks unimportant. Likes occasional drink, eating in/out, cinema and driving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418893**

CHRISTIAN male 51, seeking Christian female, 35-45 for friendship, possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423747**

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419283**

ANY mature women over 60 seeking adult fun - this attractive male 58 will cater for your needs, any size or status. **Text only. Mailbox: 5410860**

MALE, 59, 5ft2, dark hair, looking for a lady, 50-60, to share the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424759**

WIDOWER, 60s, GSOH, n/s, likes places of interest, country walks, cats and dogs, music, theatre and cinema, still looking for a lady, around 55-65, for companionship, ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424709**

MALE, 59, 5ft2, looking for genuine lady, 50-55, to share the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424353**

IAN, 5ft8, medium build, OHAC, late 50s, likes most things, holidays, gardening, motorbikes, WLTM similar aged lady, 50-60, with nice personality. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421345**

BIG is beautiful is larger is lovelier, Steve 58, seeking broadminded, adventurous BBW for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412031**

TOM, 32, slim, attractive, own home, likes to eat out and in, WLTM honest, kind girl for tender, loving care and fun times. No timewasters please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424929**

MALE, 64, single, n/s, likes music, films, driving, nights in, dining out, trips, WLTM lady, 50-70, looks unimportant, for friendship and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424927**

CARING male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 239148**

MARTIN trustworthy, warm hearted, loving, reliable male, 45, 6ft, medium build, young at heart, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424681**

MARK 48, slim, fit, GSOH, looking for loyal partner for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424679**

CARING 55yr old male, widower, 6ft 3ins, WLTM lady, 40-55 for fun and laughter, maybe happy ever after. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424677**

MALE 57, attractive, seeks mature woman any age for close fun, married or single. **Text only Mailbox: 5410860**

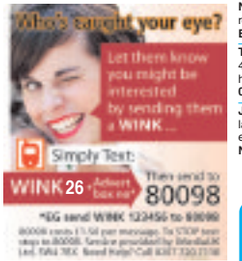
BLACK male, ex-marine, 6ft1, would like to meet a lady, 30 or over, if you would like a night in or out, Birmingham area, give me a shout. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424507**

ATTRACTIVE, tall, dark, professional male, 50, GSOH, easygoing, enjoys sport, socialising, good company, looking to meet attractive female for fun, adventure and take things from there. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424563**

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424687**

59YR old male, likes country walks, pub lunches, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424685**

MALE 50 seeks mature, home loving lady, 60 plus who enjoys cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424683**



RETIRED male seeking companionship maybe more. No time wasters. **Text only Mailbox: 5542315**

ITALIAN male, 46, from Oldbury, seeking female, 30-50, for friendship, possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424371**

TIM, young at heart, intelligent, fun loving, spontaneous, GSOH, WLTM a lady with a GSOH, for friendship and possibly more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424395**

ATTRACTIVE, Tall and intelligent Black male 50, lover of animals and nature seeks solvent lady of quality 50+ for romance. **Text only Mailbox: 5561456**

SEAN mixed race 44, seeks female, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392363**

ADVENTUROUS 36-year-old male, slim, dark hair, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

GENT 48, youthful outlook, likes countryside, keep fit, karaoke, seeks soul mate for fun times. N Shropshire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408411**

IAN, GSOH, 60, looking for somebody to go out with and have a good time, a good laugh, maybe things will move on, I'm young at heart so looking for younger female if possible, NSA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424357**

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STEVE, 53yr old male, laid back, likes most things in life, seeks female 40-50, for evenings out, need some TLC in my life. **Text only Mailbox: 4362854**

MALE, 44, very interesting person, own business, sporty, honest and genuine, likes nights out, meals out, cinema, country walks, WLTM a lady for friendship and good company leading to a permanent relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420841**

WHITE curvy lady any age, required by handsome black professional male, for discreet casual adult fun. No time wasters pls. **Text only Mailbox: 5066605**

ROB, 63, 6ft, slim, own hair own teeth, young at heart, considered good looking, OHAC, solvent, so get back if you're interested. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424027**

HELLO I am an easy going chap and I WLTM a lady, 55-65 for a permanent relationship, so please get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424131**

TONY from Walsall, mid 50s, stocky build, looking to meet a lady any age/looks/race to have fun times with, so please get in touch if you're interested. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424067**

MALE looking for lady for no strings adult fun on a regular basis, within 10 miles of Walsall is preferred but not essential, age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420873**

47 year old guy, 5ft7, dark hair, blue eyes, likes DVDs, nights in and out, seeks female, 42-49, in Leamington Spa/Rugby area, for friendship and long term relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424325**

ANDY, single, 53, looking for a mature, sexy lady, age/looks unimportant, for fun and adventure. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422893**

MALE, mid 60s, honest person, lots of interests, looking for a lady, 45-65, to share the good times with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424321**

NICE old-fashioned gent, seeks kind, caring romantic lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416905**

TALL, 63-year-old male, seeking n/s female, 45+, for hassle free fun times, in the Wolverhampton and surrounding areas. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424291**

JAY, attractive, 6ft2, single father, loves a laugh and a giggle, looking for a lady for evenings out, company and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424303**

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YOUNG male, 25, educated, likes arts, dogs, travel, classic cars, comedy, seeks similar older male for LTR. London/Shropshire anywhere. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412463**

GAY feminine female with GSOH WLTM gay feminine females for friendship, possible relationship. **Text only. Mailbox: 5631357**

BOYISH male, 5ft7, smooth, cultured, passive, likes arts, animals, Mediterranean lifestyle, seeks active, tall, funny man for LTR. Shropshire/London/anywhere. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424973**

JONNY, 24yrs, gay curious, not sure what to do, older men pls call me and help me understand. **Text only Mailbox: 4086857**

KARL young boyish male, 5ft 8ins, likes arts, travel, music, seeks tall, blond male for LTR. Shropshire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375989**

YOUNG creative, boyish lad, 28, 5ft 8ins, dark hair, slim, smooth, likes animals, classic cars, sports, bars, travel, seeks tall, supportive older male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387387**

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A top team – Netherton CC's hard-working committee with guests Jeremy Coney and Josh Daniels

Reg Cooper, aged 84, is recognised for his outstanding service with the club

Jeremy Coney with Colin Brookes, who was honoured on the night

Celebrations as cricket club racks up 150 years

NETHERTON CC honoured three club stalwarts as they rounded off their 150th anniversary celebrations with a night to remember.

Past and present players plus numerous guests checked into the Village Hotel in Dudley for a special dinner to mark the end of a momentous season.

Former New Zealand captain turned radio and TV pundit Jeremy Coney provided the cricketing entertainment with tales from his lengthy career while comedian Josh Daniels gave a brilliant stand-up routine.

Both were outdone, however, by the standing ovation club legend Reg Cooper received when his outstanding service was recognised.

The 84-year-old has served the club in numerous capacities for 53 years, having first joined as a player in 1963 and is still there at their Highbridge Road ground every Saturday during the season.

Emotional

Netherton president Dennis Lewis read out the tributes to Cooper and two other members who were honoured, Colin Brookes and Keith Culwick. Coney presented them gifts.

"The standing ovation Reg received was the highlight of the night for me," said Lewis.

"It was lovely and I think it was quite emotional for Reg. He is hugely popular at the club.

"He joined in 1963 as a player and he is still there every Saturday, making the opposition feel welcome and dishing out cups of tea.

"He played then sat on the committee for 30 years and also did a lot of work around the ground.

"He used to love cutting the outfield and took a lot of pride in his job. He designed the scorebox we had built to mark our 125th anniversary and also the team room that we had built the same year.

"There isn't much he hasn't done during his time at the club and 53 years is a unbelievable amount of commitment."

SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

"It's been a very busy and enjoyable year. We had planned things out and everything has gone quite smoothly."

Brookes is another hugely popular character at the club and well known across the Black Country and beyond for his time with Halesowen Town where he is the current president and a former manager.

The former professional footballer, who was a youth team player alongside the Busby Babes at Manchester United before spells with Albion and his home-town club Barnsley, is a keen cricket fan and joined Netherton in 1968.

"Colin had joined the police force after playing football and he was on the beat in Netherton when he joined," said Lewis.

"He played and captained the first team and has been a member ever since.

"He was a bit of a practical joker and likes to tell a few tales.

"He still comes down and bores us all with his stories!" joked Lewis. "But he has the club at heart."

Culwick joined Cooper and Brookes in the spotlight as the club thanked him for excellent work as groundsman. "Keith joined 20 years ago when his lads Matt and Mark started playing junior cricket with us," said Lewis.

"Keith ended up coaching the junior side and then started doing some work on the ground and has been our groundsman for the last 16 years, working things around his day job.

"People like this are the heartbeat of the club. Without them you wouldn't survive. You wouldn't have a club."

Lewis has served the club since 1984. He turned up one day to watch his brother play and with the team one short, he took to the field and has been hooked ever since.

Alongside the club's hard-working committee, Lewis has overseen a successful series of events that have marked a special year.

Beer

"It's been a very busy and enjoyable year," he said. "We had planned things out and everything has gone quite smoothly.

"It started in May with the president's game. We have had lots of social events and a few beer matches along the way and then we had the game with MCC on May 31.

"It was a good game of cricket and a nice get-together in the club afterwards."

And after seeing the on-field exploits prove such a hit, alongside a season that saw the first team just miss out on promotion for the third successive year in Division Three of the Worcestershire County League, Lewis was delighted with the end-of-season gathering at The Village.

"The dinner at The Village was absolutely great," he added. "The feedback that we have received has been really good.

It was a great end to what has been a good season."

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Sport

Cricket club raises bat to 150 years not out

Page 59

Late attempt falls short so final missed

Burntwood 16 Newcastle 17

FOR the second week running, Burntwood's match came down to the last kick of the game – but this time it didn't go in their favour.

Burntwood put the league to one side to focus on their Staffordshire Intermediate Cup semi-final encounter with higher league side Newcastle, and it was the visitors who booked their place in the final, against Handsworth, for the third year running.

Newcastle, playing up the slope, took only three minutes to score a well worked try in the left hand corner, which was converted. Another blow for Burntwood saw Ben Holt leave the field after a bang to the head on 10 minutes which meant a reshuffle of the backline, Neil Holden taking his place.

Newcastle missed a penalty kick to extend the lead but Sam Lloyd converted for the hosts. However, Burntwood then gave away a penalty, Newcastle kicked for the corner and a try was scored from the line-out, unconverted.

The opening minutes of the second half saw Newcastle increase their lead with an unconverted try in the corner.

Burntwood came back as Lloyd kicked two penalties to close the gap and it was set up for a nail-biting finish when Brett Taylor scored and his try was converted.

A really poor double tackle saw two Newcastle players pile Sean Latham head first in to the ground. One Newcastle player paid the price with a red card.

The referee indicated 58 seconds left and the ball was kicked in to the corner to set up the last play. From the lineout, Luke Rookyard took a chance oh a drop goal attempt which unfortunately just edged the wrong side of the right post.

On Saturday, the first XV travel to Telford in the league, while the seconds are at home to Tamworth.

Five defeats on trot leaves Hayes in mire after boss resigns

Uttoxeter Town 3 Heath Hayes 1

NOTHING is going right for Hayes at the moment. Stunned by the resignation of manager Simon Davies on Thursday, this fifth successive league defeat plunges them to fifth from bottom of the table and they now have a real fight on their hands retain their league status.

Hayes were trailing at the break to a Martin Gadsby goal on 29 minutes.

On 55 minutes Town's Cal Lovatt was dismissed for a nasty tackle on Andrew Davies, but the 10-men went 3-0 up through Luke Lewis and Harry Price. Olly Haywood pulled one back.

Chasetown 1 Kidsgrove 1

HONOURS were even in a scrappy Staffordshire derby in the Evo-Stik First Division South.

Chasetown took the lead in the eighth minute when former Scholars defender Leon Ashman wrestled Jermaine Johnson to the ground and Nathan Rooney converted from the spot.

Kidsgrove deservedly levelled three minutes after the break with a well-worked goal that saw Chris Birchall fire in off the bottom of the post.

58 – Mansell creates hole load of history

Richard Mansell and his '58' card

Golf

BURNTWOOD golfer Richard Mansell joined an exclusive club when he carded a 58 – completing a round with 10 successive threes at Florida's 6,700-yard par 72 Fort Lauderdale Country Club course.

The achievement is so rare that the 21-year-old amateur, who still plays at Beau Desert when back in this country, hadn't even considered he was on his way to an historic moment in a charity fourball.

To put it in perspective, top US pro Jim Furyk was given the nickname Mr 58 after shooting the lowest ever round in Tour Golf history.

"To be honest, there were a few things going on that had taken my mind off the scoring," Mansell confessed. "I was playing alongside some important business people and I was a bit overwhelmed by that. I thought I'd scored 60, but I just didn't miss a shot on the day."

One of Mansell's playing partners was the CEO of a big local firm and is now in talks over a sponsorship deal. As a final year student at Nova Southeastern University, Mansell is considering turning pro.

"Next year is Walker Cup (the amateur version of the Ryder Cup) year so I may have a chance of playing in it," he said.

"But my ultimate goal is to turn pro and having done what I've just done gives me the confidence."

BOSS CHALKS UP FIRST WIN

Workington 0 Hednesford Town 2

TWO goals in the opening six minutes gave Paul Casey his first win as Hednesford Town boss.

The Pitmen gave full debuts to new acquisitions Gavin Caines, Jamie Sheldon and David McDermott, and the latter two had an immediate impact on the Evo-Stik Premier game.

In just the second minute captain Tom Thorley fired in a free-kick that was tipped onto the crossbar but Sheldon was on hand to dive forward and head the ball into the net. Four minutes later a wonderful ball from Ashley Sammons picked out McDermott and, after the midfielder had flicked the ball over the last defender, he fired home low into the bottom corner to double the Pitmen's lead.

Hednesford continued their forward momentum with Caines heading an effort just over the bar then Sheldon saw a shot deflected just wide of the post in the 18th minute.

Lively

At the other end, although Elliot Newby was proving a thorn in the Pitmen's side, goalkeeper Dan Crane had little to do other than claim a couple of crosses and punch clear from a corner.

On the half-hour the lively Tony Clarke almost made it 3-0 but his scrambled effort hit the post and was cleared off the line.

The second period saw the home side trying to force a way back into the game and Kyle Rowley had to be alert in the Town box to clear away a dangerous looking cross. Crane was forced into his first real action after 62 minutes when a free-kick was laid off to Scott Allison and his fizzing effort was turned behind for a corner.

The hosts were awarded a penalty in the second minute of stoppage time but Crane dived low to right to keep out Elliot Newby's effort.

The Pitmen entertain Warrington on Saturday, kick off 3pm at Keys Park.

● It was a winning night when Hednesford Town FC Supporters Association staged a race night in a packed Strikers Bar at Keys Park.

They were under starter's orders at 7.30pm for the first of eight races, won by number 1 Red Devil. Proceedings ended with a pig race, appropriately won by Miss Piggy. A raffle helped to boost the funds and £460 was raised on the night.

Teams show their Respect

Wyrley Ladies line up in support of the FA's Respect campaign

The club's under-8s Lions team makes its stance before their weekend game

THE 65 teams within Wyrley Juniors FC supported the club's Respect weekend, aimed at supporting the FA's stance on improving behaviour in grassroots football.

The initiative involved every player and many parents wearing club produced Respect wristbands, managers signing a Respect pledge and handing them to the referee and a club Respect pennant given to opposing captains before games. In addition, pre-match photos were taken with players and referees mingled together in a message of unity against poor behaviour. FA Respect T-shirts and literature was also handed out at games.

Wyrley Juniors chairman Keith Hardy said: "We felt we had to highlight what the FA is trying to do by attempting something different and all the cub supported the actions."

Club welfare officer Sare Michael said: "We were delighted that all our teams took part."

Minall treble as seconds edge thriller

Cannock 2nds 5 Beeston 4

WITH the first team on their winter break, the second XI took centre stage and came out on top in a nine-goal thriller.

Beeston started with only ten men, but raced into a 3-0 half-time lead. Beeston were back to full strength for the second half but Cannock somehow found a way back and led 4-3 through Tom Minall (2), Callum Stacey and Ashley Hibbert. Beeston levelled, but Minall completed his hat-trick to clinch it.

Harborne 1 Cannock 3rds 4

CANNOCK extended their unbeaten run against relegation-threatened Harborne, moving themselves further up the 3rd team Midlands Premier League table.

Ben Hampton popped up in the D with a neat finish to give Cannock the lead.

Jordan Joiner added a second after the break, Ed Martin scored the third and Andy Hodgetts made it four before a late consolation after Martin was green-carded.

Cannock 4ths 3 Sutton Coldfield 2

CANNOCK 4ths finally tasted victory in what has so far proved to be a challenging season. New boy James Griffiths and Dave Wigg gave Cannock a 2-0 lead. Poor marking allowed the visitors a goal back, but Griffiths scored again and Cannock hung on after a second Sutton goal.

Cannock 6th 1 Barton 2nds 7

THE 6ths found themselves with a number of redundant fifth teamers, alongside a few regulars and a number of players promoted from the Badgers.

They battled a side who usually play at a much higher level. Karl Owen scored while Rufus Horn saved a penalty stroke.

Badgers 2 Beeston Badgers 5

BADGERS were defeated in their first game on home soil for a month.

McCarty chips in to give United victory

Cannock United 2 Acorn Albion 1

CANNOCK started brightly and dominated early on, but a silly error by keeper Josh Newman presented a gift of a goal on just seven minutes.

Cannock went on to dictate possession, but they lacked penetration. They got back in the game on 53 minutes with a penalty, despatched by debutant Alex Scott. Eventually the ball was threaded to Grant McCarty to score a sublime chip to take the game. Tom Galloway and Paul Halifax enjoyed 90 minutes each on their debut.

United visit Stone Old Alleynians on Saturday, kick off at 2pm

★★★

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